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BORRAS ON 'WOUNDS' LEFT BY ANTISUBVERSIVE STRUGGLE

PY032107 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 0141 GMT 2 Apr 85

[Text] Buenos Aires, 2 Apr (TELAM) -- Defense Minister Raul Borras today said the country cannot "forever" leave open the wounds left by the struggle against subversion. The minister made this statement in his office to journalists accredited to the Defense Ministry during a press conference in which he also denounced the existence of a campaign aimed at discrediting him.

Borras said that someday an end will have to be put to the aftermath of the struggle against subversion, because a nation cannot be based on revenge, persecution, and hatred. Regarding the situation of former II Army Corps Commander Brigadier General Victor Pino, Borras said that the case is closed and that he did not give much importance to it. He stated that the former military commander does not fit within the current Army structure and that all there is left for him is to request his retirement or join the pool of officers available for service.

The minister then denounced the existence of a campaign launched by some sectors aimed at discrediting him, and added that people are always harmed and some positions affected every time there is unrest. He said there are some sectors that intend to involve the defense minister in that situation, "but they will not manage to do so." He warned that the "generators of rumors" are trying to discredit him, but that it did not worry him at all. Borras added that that plot lacks coherence and recalled that all over the world generals are removed from their posts and nothing happens, adding that nothing is going to happen here either.

Borras downplayed statements by General Jorge Arguindegui and General Tomas Sanchez de Bustamante and said many retired high-ranking officers are engaged in a campaign aimed at preventing the trials of the former commanders. He said that this is normal and that there is nothing odd about it.

Borras then referred to the dismissal of General Ovidio Pablo Ricchieri, retired, former director of the Financial Aid Institute. He revealed that the resignations tendered by most of the directors of that institute had been refused. When asked about the statements of former Navy commander Admiral Jorge Anaya, retired, to the daily METROPOLITANO, Borras said his ministry will analyze them.

Regarding the case of Lieutenant Alfredo Astiz, Borras said he wants to act within the law. Borras added that he agreed that Astiz should be tried by the Supreme Court with all legal guarantees.

The minister admitted that some military institutions are too big, and said they should cease to be white elephants and, instead, become fast battle "horses" defending our sovereignty. Borras said the ranking officers and the intermediate cadre of the Armed Forces understand this perfectly. There is no doubt about that because there is understanding regarding planning and other subjects as a consequence of the recent experiences, he said. Borras said the Armed Forces have overcome that 33 percent [as received] and have made much progress. The minister also stated that once the court has tried the former members of the military juntas and passed down sentences, the mood in the country will change.

Regarding the Armed Forces budget, he said that there is no possibility of increasing it. He added that we are just struggling to maintain it at the present level and that imagination will be used in the training of the cadre.

When asked whether there is a subversive outbreak, Borras said that there are no such signs. The minister revealed that there is information on activities being carried out by some former members of subversive organizations, such as selling bonds and conducting publicity campaigns, but this does not mean subversion is on the rise.

Borras asserted that violence as a political methodology will be eradicated completely from the country and that this is the clear stance of the national governments. He disclosed that all provincial police departments are operating with their respective intelligence services and that an effort is being made to improve the Secretariat for State Intelligence (SIDE) so it can carry out its specific tasks in the interior of the country.

The minister said if any signs of terrorism appear, the provincial police will act first, then the security forces, and lastly the Armed Forces to the extent necessary. Regarding the theft of arms in various parts of the country, he said it has been proven that most have been taken to a bordering country, but he did not mention which one.

Referring to Argentine arms sales, Borras said our country continues to offer for sale medium-size tanks and two frigates as well as other materiel (guns, ammunition, and so on) but that the sales are proceeding slowly. He stated that the sale of frigates to Iran was almost final when we took over the national government, but before completing the deal we realized that we had no right to transfer a disaster to another continent, especially since we had displayed the banners of peace and democracy during the election campaign.

Referring to enterprises that depend on the Defense Ministry, he said some are subject to the "holding" [in English] established by the ministry and which will be submitted to Congress in the next few days. Those that show a deficit will be offered to the private sector, he said.

The minister also voiced concern over the low salaries of military personnel as well as attacks against the Armed Forces by some sectors. However, he noted, we should take into account who is making the charges and realize that not everyone in these sectors thinks that way.

Borras refused to talk about an amnesty law, but warned that the country cannot "forever" leave open the wounds left by the struggle against subversion. He stressed that some day an end will have to come to this issue, noting that this involves a process of maturity. He added that every process needs to mature. However, the minister said freedom from punishment can no longer exist in the country.

Commenting on the joint staff, he said there are no substantial changes and there is understanding regarding the need for joint action as well as for reorganization in order to modernize the Armed Forces. Borras said persons responsible for the reorganization of military institutions did not make the necessary effort. He added that this reorganization will be carried out and will respect the individuality of each force.

Regarding the proposal to promote new military chiefs, the defense minister said many of the vacancies will not be filled. He said the case of Colonel Justo Rojas Alcorta, who was questioned by Federal Party leader Ariel Dulevich Uzal for a speech he made to some teachers a few years ago when he was the commander of a regiment in Mercedes is still being studied. Dulevich Uzal said the speech had an anti-Semitic and antidemocratic tone.

Comments Criticized

PY051150 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 4 Apr 85 p 11

[Text] (DYN-NA) -- Human rights leaders and opposition party congressmen yesterday roundly criticized Defence Minister Raul Borras for his statements that "some day the book will have to be closed" on the so-called dirty war against subversion.

Borras' comments to reporters on Tuesday were interpreted by critics as favouring some type of amnesty for lower-ranking military officers implicated in the dirty war excesses.

But Human Rights Under Secretary Eduardo Rabossi denied any amnesty law was being drafted by the government and said that "people who want an amnesty are the ones furthering this campaign to see amnesty in the news media."

Asked what prompted Borras to say that Argentina "can't remain with open wounds forever" after the dirty war, Rabossi only responded: "The minister will have to answer that one."

On the other hand, lower house majority leader Cesar Jaroslavsky did not rule out the possibility of a national plebiscite on the dirty war as part of a theoretical campaign to close the book on the era.

Meanwhile, Mothers of the Plaza de Mayo Chairman Hebe de Bonafini said Borras' statement was no surprise since "a camouflaged amnesty law already exists since accused repressors are not called to testify, Navy Lieutenant Commander Alredo Astiz is still free, military officers implicated in human rights violations are promoted, and many (officers) have been given posts in embassies" abroad.

"The amnesty has existed for over a year," Mrs Bonafini added, referring to the 15-month time-period that the Radical government has been in office.

National Deputy Augusto Conte, (Christian Democrat-federal capital), said "there is no doubt the intention exists" to come out with a government-drafted amnesty plan and criticized the Defence Ministry for "giving up more and more ground" in important military issues.

Conte added he thought it "absurd that just as the country faces a trial (of the first three military Process juntas) the defence minister comes out and mentions the amnesty issue."

Quilmes Bishop Jorge Novak, meanwhile, said any open wounds the country might suffer from the dirty war should be handled "exclusively by the justice system."

National Senator Oraldo Britos, head of the Rio Hondo Peronist faction, warned that Borras' statements appear to show that the government is "back-tracking in its human rights policy." He also warned that forgetting about the dirty war "could lead to the repetition of mistakes."

Diplomat Gregorio Dupont, brother of Marcelo Dupont, who was mysteriously killed in an accident implicating former Navy Commander-in-Chief Emilio Massera, called on the government to "clearly state" whether it plans to come out with an amnesty or not.

Jarolavsky, head of the Radical bloc in the lower house, yesterday told newsmen he personally did not reject the possibility of a plebiscite on the dirty war disappearances and killings. But he added that it should only be held "after the trial of the three military juntas has taken place."

ARMY COMMANDER ANNOUNCES JOINT EXERCISES WITH U.S.

PY051730 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1647 GMT 5 Apr 85

[Text] Cochabamba, 5 Apr (EFE) -- Bolivia and the United States will conduct combined military exercises in the Valle Alto zone of Cochabamba Department, 500 km east of La Paz, Army Commander General Raul Lopez Leyton has reported.

The U.S. Army will provide planes, helicopters, and other modern military equipment, Lopez Leyton said. U.S. pilots and instructors will also participate in the exercises.

No U.S. troops will participate, Lopez Leyton said. He added that these exercises are included in bilateral military agreements. Bolivian paratroops, of the Special Training Center, will take part in the combined operations.

Lopez Leyton added that the U.S. Army equipment will arrive directly in Cochabamba by the end of April.

UNIONS REPORTEDLY PREPARING FOR MORE STRIKES

PY052218 Paris AFP in Spanish 1359 GMT 5 Apr 85

[Text] La Paz, 5 Apr (AFP) -- It was reported here today that several unions have announced that on 8 April they will stage more strikes and protest demonstrations, demanding the implementation of the government-Bolivian Labor Federation [COB] agreements.

Angel Zaballa, the COB secretary for economic affairs, has indicated that the government's plans for controlling inflation and of directly intervening in economic and financial affairs have no chance because of the lack of a coherent plan that will attack the roots of the crisis.

The union leader also announced that the government of President Hernan Siles Zuazo is preparing another package of economic measures, including another devaluation of the Bolivian peso.

The COB-government agreement of 28 March includes a salary increase, price controls, and the provision of foodstuffs. These last two measures have not yet been implemented, which is why the unions are consulting with each other in order to pressure the government.

The most recent labor conflict paralyzed the country for 16 days with a general strike, which, according to Planning Minister Freddy Justiniano, caused the country to lost $140 million.

REPORTAGE ON TANCREDO NEVES' CONDITION

Situation Worsening

PY061630 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1531 GMT 6 Apr 85

[Text] Brasilia, 6 Apr (EFE) -- A somber atmosphere again surrounded Jarubu Palace in Brasilia, the residence of Acting President Jose Sarney, after it was revealed that, in the past few hours, the condition of Tancredo Neves had again worsened. According to reports obtained directly from the Heart Institute of the Clinical Hospital [in Sao Paulo], Neves, 75, was transferred today to another section of the hospital for a computerized tomographic exam because of the threatening persistence of the intestinal infection.

Ulysses Guimaraes, president of the Chamber of Deputies, reported today that fever is again weakening the president-elect.

The medical team treating Neves in Sao Paulo had avoided transferring the patient because of his extreme weakness, but today they had no choice, because of the urgent situation.

Presidential spokesman Antonio Brito said today that the sophisticated examination had been undertaken to detect new infections which prompted the fifth urgent operation on Neves 48 hours ago, the fifth in less than 20 days.

Sarney, 54, today remained at Jarubu Palace on the outskirts of Brasilia to follow the critical situation in detail through a direct communication link with Sao Paulo.

According to FOLHA DO SAO PAULO, Neves' possibilities of recovery are only 25 percent. Castelo Branco, an influential columnist of JORNAL DO BRASIL, has said that the outlook is somber.

Although the feared outcome keeping Brazil in anguish has not taken place, government officials and military officers are discreetly taking the necessary measures for the funeral of a head of state, despite the fact that Neves has never assumed the presidency.

Fever Down

PY070406 Sao Paulo Radio Bandeirante Network in Portuguese 0338 GMT 7 Apr 85

[Medical bulletin read by Pedro Luis Rodriguez from the Heart Institute of the Sao Paulo University Clinical Hospital]

[Text] Information on the state of recovery of His Excellency President Tancredo Neves at 0015.

The following is the information released by the doctors:

The president has been awake since 2300 and his current overall clinical condition remains good, without any alterations to his hemodynamic functions, in other words, his pulse and blood pressure.

When President Tancredo Neves awoke at 2300, as I have already mentioned, he had a temperature of 31.7 degrees, indicating that the fever is dropping. The president is still aided by the oral-tracheal tube, which is helping him breathe.

As reported in the last medical bulletin that was released yesterday [Saturday] at 2000, a thorax X-ray clearly reveals an improvement in the lungs.

Laboratory examinations were carried out at 2200 to evaluate the respiratory functions and the ratio of oxygen in the blood, and have shown that there is an improvement in the lungs, as the X ray had already demonstrated.

Thank you.

Neves Sits Up

PY072140 Sao Paulo Radio Bandeirantes in Portuguese 2115 GMT 7 Apr 85

[Report from Sao Paulo Heart Institute]

[Excerpt] I would like to have your attention to read the medical bulletin that has just been released regarding the condition of the president of the Republic.

I have good news to read:

Medical bulletin:

The medical team treating His Excellency, the president of the Republic, Tancredo Neves, which is headed by Dr Henrique Walter Pinotti, has issued the following information.

1. The X-rays taken today reveal an improvement in the condition of the lung. According to the X-rays the situation of President Tancredo's lungs has almost returned to normal.

2. For precautionary measures and in order to aid his breathing, the president is being partially aided by a breathing machine.

3. A new sonogram carried out today confirms that there are no infectious spots in his abdomen. The president did not run a fever today.

4. The incision of the initial operation shows in his abdomen. The president did not run a fever today.

4. The incision of the initial operation shows signs of granulation.

5. His cardiovascular, kidney, and digestive functions are within normal parameters.

6. The president continues to be fed intravenously.

Signed: Henrique Walter Pinotti and Joao Baptista Rezende Alves

I would like to add that today the president, for the first time, managed to sit up for some time in a chair placed inside the recovery war.

Faces 'Critical Situation'

PY081306 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1209 GMT 8 Apr 85

[Text] Sao Paulo, 8 Apr (EFE) -- Radio Jornal do Brasil this morning reported that Brazilian President Tancredo Neves has been running a fever of 38 degrees since early this morning, this is the highest fever of the past few days.

One of the doctors of the Heart Institute of the Clinical University Hospital of Sao Paulo, who is treating Neves but who did not want to identify himself, said that the president is going to face a "critical situation" in the next few hours.

There has been no official medical report on Tancredo Neves' health since 1820 7 April.

EFE SAYS DEMOCRATIC STABILITY GUARANTEED

PY052010 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1804 GMT 5 Apr 85

[By Francisco Roque Bacareza]

[Text] Brasilia, 5 Apr (EFE) -- Despite the serious state of health of President Tancredo Neves, democratic stability is guaranteed in Brazil by the Constitution, the political parties, and the Armed Forces. A consensus has been achieved on an automatic mandate for Jose Sarney as president of the nation, according to well-known political personalities, after a day of high tension over the worsening of Tancredo Neves' health.

The Brazilian democracy, which has started to take root after 21 years of authoritarian military regimes, was shaken by the sudden sickness of Tancredo Neves, 75, and the worsening of his clinical condition, which has required 5 [number as received] operations in 21 days.

A regression in the political and institutional process would be unthinkable, said Health Minister [title as received] Walter Pires, while Army Minister General Leonidas Pires reasserted that the Armed Forces will support the constitutional provisions and the mandate of the vice president.

Vice President Jose Sarney, 54, has been acting president since 15 March, and Chamber of Deputies President Ulysses Guimaraes, who is one of the most influential figures next to Tancredo Neves, reiterated his support for the Constitutional and asked the nation to have faith and confidence in the recovery of Tancredo Neves.

According to official information, the military command was placed in a state of alert after the announcement that President Neves would be operated on for the fifth time yesterday, and that his state of health was very serious. According to the acting president's spokesman, Fernando Mezquita, Jose Sarney remained yesterday at the Jaburu residence, along the outskirts of Brasilia, where he is directly following the developments of Tancredo Neves' recovery at the Sao Paulo Heart Institute. Mezquita added that hopes have revived with the medical bulletins reporting on the improvement of the president's condition. Administration Minister Aluizio Alves affirmed that should Neves pass away, Acting President Jose Sarney would not need to take a new oath of office. Meantime, persons who were near the vice president on Thursday, 4 April, revealed that an atmosphere of sadness could be sensed around him, resembling that of a wake.

The military ministers returned to Brasilia last night to follow the developments, and Army Minister General Leonidas Pires Goncalves issued orders that a funderal appropriate for a head of state be prepared. Considering the possibility of a presidential succession, politicians generally tend to support an interim government until a constituent assembly next year adopts decisions for Brazil's future and constitutional reforms.

According to that proposition, which is supported by Tancredo Neves himself, the constituent assembly would call for direct presidential elections and shorten the current 6-year presidential term to 4 years.

Meantime, Jose Sarney will have to tackle the country's urgent socioeconomic problems.

Political analists have forewarned Sarney that despite the support he has received, he is not a national consensus figure like Tancredo Neves, and therefore his mandate would confront greater difficulties.

SENATORS REPORT 'CALM' THROUGHOUT NATION

PY051125 Porto Alegre Radio Guaiba in Portuguese 1000 GMT 5 Apr 85

[Excerpt] Upon leaving the Sao Paulo Heart Institute, Deputy Primenta da Veiga, the government leader in the Chamber of Deputies, said that unfortunately it is necessary to tell the truth and he gloomily added that the general situation is serious, and the family has resigned itself, but they are brave. Right now, I am leaving for Brasilia to meet President [title as heard] Serney at the Jaburu Palace where we will analyze the situation, da Veiga said.

In turn, Senators Marcondes Gadelha and Guillerme Palmeira, who both belong to the Liberal Front Party, were already in the Jaburo Palace, where they had gone to obtain further information on the president's condition from Vice President Jose Sarney.

During that meeting, the two senators defended the position of maintaining the constitutional order, and remarked that there is absolute calm throughout the whole country.

Repeating the words of Deputy Ulysses Guimaraes, president of the Chamber of Deputies, who has stated that men come and go but democratic institutions remain, Senator Palmeira admitted that the possible alternatives regarding the future of the country should be examined, and stressed the fact that the democratic alliance is consolidated and it will give all the necessary support to maintain the institutional order of the country.

Palmeira explained his presence at the Jaburu Palace saying that we are emotionally, but not institutionally, going through a very difficult and traumatic situation.

As a doctor, Senator Marcondes (Gadelha) said that there are still reasons to be hopeful for the president's recovery. Two abscesses are nothing to worry about unless they spread. If they do the situation could become complicated.

The government leader in Congress, Senator Fernando Henrique Cardoso, also believes that the situation is being handled responsibly. There are no alterations on the political scene, we did what was necessary, and we will continue doing so because there is a Constitution which we are following and which we will continue to follow, Cardoso said.

PINOCHET ORDERS COOPERATION IN MURDER INVESTIGATION

PY051700 Santiago Radio Chilena in Spanish 2300 GMT 4 Apr 85

[Excerpt] Minister Secretary General of Government Francisco Javier Cuadra has confirmed that the government has ordered all its organizations and institutions to give their maximum cooperation to the work of the courts in order to clear up the kidnappings and triple murder committed at the end of last week. The minister made this statement after a long cabinet meeting held this morning at La Moneda Palace. The cabinet meeting was presided over by Interior Minister Ricardo Garcia. Francisco Javier Cuadra told the press that the latest events, which have had an impact on the public, were studied at the meeting.

[Begin recording] The cabinet ministers have studied in detail some of the most important reports on the case which the public learned about on Friday and Saturday last week, the kidnapping and killing of some persons [words indistinct]. On the specific orders of President Pinochet, the executive branch has ordered all its organizations and institutions to give their maximum cooperation to the work of the courts, and we expect the most prompt and complete clarification of the case, because the realization of justice in criminal cases, such as the one we have just witnessed, is one of the basic objectives to ensure common welfare. [end recording]

MARCH HELD IN REMEMBRANCE OF MURDER VICTIMS

PY062330 Paris AFP in Spanish 1959 GMT 6 Apr 85

[Text] Santiago, 6 Apr (AFP) -- Nearly 100 persons today marched to the place where a week ago an armed civilian commando group kidnapped and cut the throats of teacher Manuel Guerrero, sociologist Jose Manuel Parada, and painter Santiago Nattino. Members of human rights organizations, the Chilean Teachers Association (AGECH), Catholic clergymen, and laymen participated in the march staged in memory of the three slain opposition members. Policemen followed the marchers at a prudent distance, but no incidents took place.

Father Jose Aldunate said that these deaths should make the nation stop and reflect and all Chileans should now wholeheartedly say no to the cult of death that is beginning to spread among us. The marchers laid flowers and placed three wooden crosses on the places where the bodies were found, near the international airport. It was stated there that these three people died in defense of life, freedom, and culture. A member of the Chilean church Solidarity Vicariate said that the unjust sacrifice of these three people is a symbol that will encourage us to build a better society.

FOUR PHCH MEMBERS BANISHED TO NORTHERN CAMP

PY042052 Paris AFP in Spanish 1635 GMT 4 Apr 85

[Text] Santiago, 4 Apr (AFP) -- Four members of the centrist Chilean Humanist Party [Partido Humanista de Chile, PHCH] were today banished to a remote camp for political prisoners located in a desert area in the northern part of the country, the PHCH reported today.

The Pinochet government ordered the banishment of the four PHCH members on charges of subversion. They were detained on 22 March while distributing leaflets requesting that Chilean arms be sold to cover the losses stemming from the earthquake that hit the central part of Chile last month and that caused 177 deaths and damage estimated at $1.8 billion. Twenty-four PHCH members had been detained earlier in similar circumstances, but were released later by the Carabineros. At that time, a woman had a miscarriage due to maltreatment and nervous strain, PHCH spokesman Cristobal Koning told the press.

The four banished PHCH members will stay in the Conchi Camp, 1,600 km north of Santiago, for an indefinite period. Ten leftist opposition leaders have been there for 2 months. The camp is surrounded by wire fences and is guarded by Army personnel. The prisoners are submitted to a tough military regimen, relatives have said.

BETANCUR CANCELS MANAGUA STOPOVER, ARRIVES HOME

PA051250 Bogota Emisoras CARACOL Network in Spanish 1229 GMT 5 Apr 85

[Text] Bogota -- President Belisario Betancur will begin today a series of consultations with his colleagues of the Contadora Group and Nicaragua to complete his work on Central American peace.

Prior to his return to Bogota from Washington, the Colombian president had to cancel a planned stopover in Managua last night to meet with Nicaraguan President Daniel Ortega because Ortega was not in the Nicaraguan capital.

Colombian Foreign Minister Augusto Ramirez Ocampo said that President Betancur will carry out the necessary efforts to promote the peace process following a proposal by President Reagan for a truce in the Nicaraguan internal struggle, new elections, and that the $14 million authorized [as heard] for the contras not be used militarily for 2 months but instead for humanitarian objectives. Ramirez Ocampo described Reagan's proposal as interesting, but he added that this clearly does not paralyze Contadora and that, on the contrary, efforts for peace will be intensified. Two days before the meeting of plenipotentiaries in Panama on 11 and 12 April a technical group will meet in Caracas to prepare the agenda for the Panama meeting, which will deal with security, weapons control, and military advisers in the region.

Comments on U.S. Visit

PA051749 Bogota Emisoras CARACOL Network in Spanish 1215 GMT 5 Apr 85

[Text] Bogota -- President Belisario Betancur said he was presenting a victory report to the country following his visit to the United States, where authorities expressed recognition of his government's policy of self-discipline in development. He also asked for reflection on the part of labor confederations that have announced a nationwide strike to protest the government's economic measures.

The president arrived in Bogota at dawn after meeting with nine heads of state and government of Central America, Mexico, and the United States. He said his heart was filled with emotion over the U.S. Congress' and Government's recognition of his administration's action on public expenditures, handling inflation, (?imports), and the struggle against drug trafficking, and the multilateral action by Contadora in favor of peace in Central America. President Betancur appeared visibly tired after his intense tour that began last Saturday when he left the country in search of new paths toward Central American peace.

In his remarks to the press the president stressed the comprehension, logic, and reflection of the Colombian working class, and he added that he is sure that after studying the government's policies the labor confederations will conclude that what is being done in the country is serious and is for the benefit of the popular classes. He said that education, employment, and health will be helped by the support of financial organizations like the World Bank and the IDB and by national efforts through the austerity plan. President Betancur said he is sure that workers will realize this, but he announced that he will respect the decisions made by their leaders because, he said, they are outstanding patriots.

Colombia obtained the commitment of the United States for the modification of the extradition treaty between the two nations so as to ensure that nationals of either country are not extradicted for political reasons. Betancur said that Colombia will be very zealous in the area of preventing extraditions for political reasons and ensuring respect for human rights, preserving the dignity of those extradited, and assuring their right to a proper and adequate trial. The president also said that the United States has promised to fulfill the treaty and will extradite the U.S. nationals sought by Colombian authorities for crimes established in the document.

The president said he was filled with emotion at the U.S. Congress' and authorities' recognition of his government's struggle against drug trafficking. He emphasized that Senator Hawkins, who has asked for sanctions against Bolivia, appeared before the Senate Foreign Relations Committee to praise Colombia, its unyielding battle against this scourge, and the action of its authorities. The president also stressed that President Reagan admitted that the fight against drugs entails several paths, among them combating the U.S. domestic consumption since the figures are alarming, with drug trade amounting to $110 billion.

BOMBS SET OFF IN FOUR CITIES; CURFEW IMPOSED

PA070217 Bogota EL TIEMPO in Spanish 28 Mar 85 pp 1, 2 A

[Text] As a result of terrorist actitities that rocked four important cities last night and forced the authorities to impose a curfew in the towns of Yumbo and Valle del Cauca, one policeman died, four were wounded, and a great deal of property damage was sustained.

All the bombs were placed near military bases and secret service organization offices. Up to midnight no subversive group had claimed credit for the actions that affected Cali, Yumbo, Medellin, Bucaramanga, and Popayan.

The most serious subversive attack took place in Yumbo, a known stronghold of the 19 April Movement, where one policeman died and four were wounded. The action was carried out by persons wearing hoods who attacked the police station and the residence of an alderman. As a result of this, the authorities found themselves forced to impose a curfew in the municipality. Security operations were mounted in all the affected cities.

ECOPETROL DENIES NORTH SEA OIL PURCHASES

PA041505 Bogota Emisoras CARACOL Network in Spanish 1215 GMT 3 Apr 85

[Text] Bogota -- In a communique denying press reports that the country is purchasing crude oil on the British market, the Colombian Petroleum Enterprise [Ecopetrol] has stated that Colombia suspended its purchases of Mexican oil due to low quality but retains Venezuela and Ecuador as its main suppliers.

Ecopetrol said that although the Mexican oil was rejected due to its high sulphur content, it purchases 18,000 barrels of gasoline per day from American sources. A similar amount of crude is purchased from Venezuela, and at least 5,000 barrels a day are purchased from Ecuador. Ecopetrol added that Colombia only occasionally resorted to the North Sea market. However, on those occasions it was via U.S. Occidental oil, an affiliate of Ecopetrol for the exploitation of Arauca fields. Ecopetrol insisted that those were only occasional decisions and not part of any strategy to replace American suppliers with European ones.

PEMEX Response

PA051426 Bogota Cadena Radial Super in Spanish 0000 GMT 5 Apr 85

[Text] Bogota -- Mexican Petroleum, PEMEX, has contradicted a report issued by Ecopetrol explaining that Colombia cannot stop purchasing Mexican crude oil because it has never started purchasing it. PEMEX's clarification was a response to Ecopetrol, which announced a few days ago that it would no longer buy crude oil from Mexico because of poor quality. PEMEX said it had sent Colombia a shipment of 200,000 barrels for testing and that the light oil was of inferior quality, being of the Istmus or light type. The Mexican organization corrected Ecopetrol by pointing out that Colombia is not a PEMEX customer and that quality problems result from mixing foreign light oil with Colombian light oil refined by Ecopetrol and not from the raw material received from abroad.

FEBRES CORDERO ON OPEC, REGIONAL COOPERATION

PA032006 Quito Voz de los Andes in Spanish 1130 GMT 1 Apr 85

[Text] Ecuadoran President Leon Febres Cordero has stated that Ecuador will not withdraw from OPEC and stressed the need to make Latin America's instruments on cooperation more dynamic. In this sense, the president advocated direct communications between heads of state. According to reports released by the National Secretariat for Public Information, Febres Cordero told the foreign television media that the disciplinary measures established by the major oil-exporting countries are the only means of stabilizing oil prices. He said that Ecuador will step up efforts to locate new reserves and that his administration is painstakingly attempting to promote agriculture to curtail the exaggerated dependence on the foreign exchange that the oil industry generates. The president stressed that it is imperative that Latin America's instruments for cooperation be made more dynamic and efficient in order that excessive formalities and bureaucracy may be eliminated, and added: I believe that direct communications between heads of state is an efficient mechanism that yields genuinely valuable results.

FEBRES CORDERO TO MEET BUSH IN NEW YORK

PA070347 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 2221 GMT 6 Apr 85

[By Jorge Aguirre]

[Excerpt] Quito, 6 Apr (REUTER) -- Ecuadoran President Leon Febres Cordero will leave tomorrow on a private visit to the United States, where he will meet with directors of finance institutions and private banks with which his country has debit accounts.

Febres Cordero also plans to meet in New York with Vice President George Bush and Venezuelan President Jaime Lusinchi, before leaving in a week for an official visit to Cuba. Ecuadoran Foreign Minister Edgar Teran told the news media that the Central American crisis will take up a lot time in the conversations that President Febres Cordero will hold in New York and Havana. In a statement issued at the Presidential House, Febres Cordero said that Contadora's peace effort was the adequate instrument for a political solution, instead of a military solution, to the Central American crisis. Febres Cordero however warned "against the danger of Contadora falling into a stalemate situation" and he also presented a strong defense for "the principle of self-determination as a necessary element to reach solutions that are valid."

Vice President Blasco Pena Herrera will be acting president until 16 April when President Febres Cordero returns with his entourage which is made up of 13 persons.

Departs for U.S., Cuba Visits

PA071524 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1507 GMT 7 Apr 85

[Text] Quito, 7 Apr (EFE) -- Ecuadoran President Leon Febres Cordero left on a private 8-day visit to the United States this morning. Febres Cordero left the Salinas military base, 400 km from Quito, accompanied by Foreign Minister Edgar Teran, Labor Minister Francisco Diaz, Finance Minister Francisco Swett, and an entourage of approximately 50 persons.

Febres Cordero, after a technical stopover in Miami, is scheduled to arrive in New York City, where he will remain the entire time of his visit, at 1700 local time. His visit to the United States is aimed at undertaking steps to renegotiate the foreign debt. He will also meet with Vice President George Bush and with Venezuelan President Jaime Lusinchi, who is also in the United States. After visiting the United States, the Ecuadoran president will leave on an official visit to Cuba.

FRG PRESIDENT WILL NOT MEET STROESSNER

PY061432 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1602 GMT 5 Apr 85

[Text] Bonn, 5 Apr (EFE) -- According to the magazine DER SPIEGEL, FRG President Richard von Weizsaecker will make a private visit to the Canary Islands (Spain) in late June at the invitation of King Juan Carlos I. Should the trip be confirmed, Weizsaecker will be out of Bonn during the official visit of Paraguayan President General Alfredo Stroessner, who will arrive on 3 July.

The magazine comments that Weizsaecker has found a formula to avoid meeting Stroessner who has maintained his rule in Paraguay for more than 30 years.

According to the magazine, Weizsacker has already told the Madrid government that, although he will be arriving in late June, he intends to extend his stay in the Canary Islands for a few days, beyond 3 July.

DER SPIEGEL concludes by stating that, representing Weizsaecker, upper house President Lothar Spaeth, the head of the Baden-Wurttemberg government, will meet Stroessner in Stuttgart.

In the Canary Islands, Weizsaecker will attend the opening of an astronimical observatory, to which several West European heads of state have also been invited.

TRADE UNION DEMANDS REOPENING OF ABC COLOR

PY061801 Paris AFP in Spanish 1821 GMT 4 Apr 85

[Text] Asuncion, 4 Apr (AFP) -- In an open letter distributed today to the local media, the Trade Union of journalists, which is not recognized by the government, has demanded the reopening of the Paraguayan newspaper ABC COLOR, which was closed a year ago by the government of Alfredo Stroessner.

The union demands that the newspaper be reopened to allow its members to regain their jobs and charged that freedom of the press and expression have been time and again violated in the country.

The National Accord (a coalition of opposition parties which is not recognized by the government) immediately issued a communique endorsing the above demand. The national accord also charges the dictatorship with having closed ABC COLOR in an attempt to remove an irritant to the diabolical plan of abuse and violations of human rights and of rampant administrative corruption.

ABC COLOR, which was closed on 22 March 1984 by the Interior Ministry, was described by President Stroessner himself as a criminal promoter of divisions that seeked to destabilize peace and democracy by disrupting order and coexistence.

COLOMBIAN 'MAFIA' OWNS DRUG-RELATED CHEMICALS

PY061650 Asuncion HOY in Spanish 3 Apr 85 p 11

[Excerpt] Wilfredo (Willy) Gonzalez Ruiz is the person who is chiefly responsible for the illegal entry into our country of a shipment of 140 tons of chemical products which can be used to process cocaine hydrochlorate worth nearly $100 million. This statement was made yesterday by the Customs General Directorate based on press reports released in Brazil where police had obtained more data on this shady business by confronting the main suspects.

Willy Gonzalez confirmed to Brazilian Federal Police that attorney Nelson Secaf, who is now under arrest in Sao Paulo, is the Mafia member from whom he purchased the chemical products. Secaf is considered an important member of the Mafia. Secaf had also been acting as a customs broker in Brazil, the customs spokesman had stated.

According to the report of the Paraguayan customs authorities, "the most important evidence produced is related to the activities of Nelson Secaf in the Mafia." He played the role of an adviser, obtaining "blank" documents on "purchases" or the opening of trading firms which were used for several purposes, such as purchasing the chemical products needed for processing cocaine, "laundering" the "dirty" money yielded by cocaine sales, and giving legal status to the members of the gang in Brazil or in other countries like Paraguay, Bolivia, Peru, Colombia, and Venezuela."

In the summary proceedings carried out by the Customs General Directorate in our country, Willy Gonzalez appeared as a purchasing agent of the enterprise La Rural San Pedro, Inc. Forestal, in whose name the chemical products were consigned. They were seized by the customs authorities and are currently in the custody of the National Institute for Technology and Standardization where they await destruction.

Thus, it may be stated that the chemical products seized in our country in October 1984, which came from Brazil, were the property of the Colombian Mafia, one of the spokesman concluded.

LARGE NUMBER OF SOVIET OFFICIALS, MILITARY NOTED

PY252315 Paris AFP in Spanish 1917 GMT 5 Apr 85

[Text] Lima, 5 Apr (AFP) -- It was reported here today that the Soviet Union has a larger diplomatic mission (officials and military advisers) in Lima than it has anywhere else in Latin America.

Jaime Cheneffusse, the president of the Senate Defense Committee, stated that Peru has a total of 650 Soviet officials on its soil and that all of them have diplomatic status as members of the Soviet Embassy. Senator Cheneffusse also stated that in addition to the officials who are accredited to the Soviet Embassy, there is a large number of Soviet personnel who work on the merchant ships that operate in international waters close to the 200-maritime mile limit that has been declared under Peruvian sovereignty.

The Soviet presence was increased during the military regime of General Juan Velasco (1968-75), when Soviet tanks, missiles, radar, artillery, helicopters, and other equipment were purchased, and now this materiel needs spare parts and advisers from that country, he added.

After highlighting the fact that this large number of personnel has even caused the creation in the neighboring port of El Callao, located on the Pacific, of special stores and shops for this clientele, Cheneffusse acknowledged that to modify this situation would be an obstacle to the country's defense and security systems.

BOLIVIAN SOLDIERS CROSS BORDER, MOVE LANDMARKER

PY061655 Paris AFP in Spanish 1537 GMT 6 Apr 85

[Text] Lima, 6 Apr (AFP) -- A Puno official today reported that a group of Bolivian soldiers, who were led by an Army lieutenant, had entered Peruvian territory and moved landmarker 21 some 70 meters inside Peruvian territory toward the campesino community of Viluyo, Puno Department, 1,300 km southeast of Lima.

The report, which was submitted by Biluyo Governor Macario Surco, was filed by the office of the chief of the Republican Guard of Huancane Province which, according to unofficial reports, has relayed it to the Peruvian Foreign Ministry.

The Bolivian soldiers, along with the Puerto Acosta (Bolivia) deputy prefect, whose identity was not revealed, had previously arrived in the Bolivian community of Chaullauna, moving the abovementioned Peruvian-Bolivian border marker, the source stated. The site is located 180 km from Huancane at an elevation of 5,200 meters.

PRISON RIOT ENDS, 8 HOSTAGES RELEASED

PY051434 Paris AFP in Spanish 0035 GMT 5 Apr 85

[Excerpt] Lima, 4 Apr (AFP) -- A rebellion on the island prison of El Fronton involving some 400 prisoners accused of being terrorists ended tonight, after a commission named by the Peruvian Government granted the 15 requests of the prisoners and the latter released the 8 hostages they took yesterday, 3 April, at noon.

The prisoners, who are from various parts of the country and most of whom are presumed to be members of the Shining Path, the Maoist organization which started a bloody subversive war 5 years ago, obtained immediate improvement in their housing conditions and food.

The commission, formed by Justice Ministry officials, also promised to obtain the release of eight relatives and lawyers of El Fronton prisoners, arrested by the police in the last days, and to facilitate visits by the relatives of the prisoners.

AFP ANALYZES CURRENT POLITICAL, TERRORIST SITUATION

PY070245 Paris AFP in Spanish 1853 GMT 6 Apr 85

[Text] Lima, 6 Apr (AFP) -- Peruvian terrorists, whose violent actions have already caused 6,215 deaths, are carrying out an intensive pamphleteering campaign against the 14 April elections recommending that people not vote, but rather help generalize the guerrilla warfare in order to obtain power for the people.

In response, President Fernando Belaunde's government supported by the Armed Forces, has taken precautionary measures to maintain the security of the voters, especially in the 25 provinces in which a state of emergency has been declared, because he is sure that the ballot boxes will show that the extremists have no support.

Meanwhile, the political parties, with the exception of the American Revolutionary Popular Alliance [APRA], which is favored to win the elections, are rejecting a dialogue with the terrorists as a way to reestablish peace and believe that arms and economic and social assistance will stop the bloodbath.

The Shining Path, which defines itself as Marxist, Leninist, and Maoist, is leading the fight against the elections. This group was the first to take up arms exactly 5 years ago when the elections at that time put an end to the military regime.

But, another two groups have recently joined the battle: Puka Llacta (Red Fatherland in the Quechua language), which operates in Pasco, located in the country's central Andean region, and the Tupac Amaru Revolutionary Movement, which has carried out several actions and sabotage in Lima.

The Shining Path is led by former university professor Abimael Guzman, whose followers call him President Gonzalo. The Shining Path is even using the mail to distribute anti-election pamphlets. The pamphlets say that electoral jargon has never represented anything good for the people.

The written propaganda proclaims that to vote is to support the social system and to elect another government that will provoke even more hunger and genocide, and it also states that any type of victory, whether it be social or political, has been wrested through the struggle of the people.

Its propaganda also reports that now that guerrilla warfare is well entrenched and the stage of the first popular committees has been achieved. The Shining Path and the Armed Forces have now reached the stage of confrontation, the former attempting to maintain the new type of power and the latter to destroy it, but the popular republic with a new democracy, supported by the popular guerrilla army, is advancing.

The other two extremist groups also demand that elections be subverted, because no political party really supports the desires of our people, who, they say, can count on a political-military group that has the mission of fighting the sellers of the fatherland, its political parties and imperialism.

And yet, President Fernando Belaunde Terry, his prime minister, Luis Percovich, his interior minister, General Oscar Brush, and the president of the Electoral Court, state that there will be maximum guarantees for everyone.

This is why the government has renewed the state of emergency for 60 days in 25 Andean provinces: 7 in Ayacucho Department, 5 in Apurimac Department, 5 in Huancavelica, 6 in Huanuco, 1 in Pasco and 1 in San Martin, areas in which there is the fear that there will be an outbreak of violence against voters.

In a state of emergency, which abrogates constitutional guarantees and implements military authority, these provinces, especially those located in Ayacucho, have been the most affected, because the majority of deaths have occurred in them and, according to reliable sources, these deaths include 185 policemen, 2,959 members of Shining Path and 3,071 civilians.

The APRA, with its presidential candidate Alan Carcia, 35, is the only political party that has proposed a negotiated peace with the extremists in an overall plan of reconciliation that provides for an accelerated development of the [redacted] has been ravaged by violence and where areas of extreme poverty [redacted]

The Marxist front United Left, which appears to be the second [redacted] may very well split up due to its position regarding the Shining [redacted] because its president, and presidential candidates, Alfonso Barrantes [redacted] with the radicals.

The terrorists, who call all Marxist leaders parliamentarian cretins, have the support of several leaders of groups that make up the United Left to at least try and start a dialogue and this is causing tension, and even splintering, within that front.

PRESIDENT SANGUINETTI SUPPORTS CONTADORA PROCESS

FL040200 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 0110 GMT 4 Apr 85

[Text] Mexico City, 3 Apr (NOTIMEX) -- Uruguayan Ambassador to Mexico Yaci Rovira Beloso said today that Uruguayan President Julio Maria Sanguinetti supports the Contadora Group's efforts to find a peaceful solution for Central America. The diplomat said that even though Uruguay is not a member of the Contadora Group, which is made up of the Colombia, Mexico, Panama, and Venezuela, it still struggles for peace in Central America because dialogue is the only way to overcome problems.

He said regional problems and their solutions are the responsibility of the Central American countries involved, but the work of the Contadora Group is meritorious because it expresses the concern of the member nations for stimulating cooperation in achieving a negotiating spirit and achieving peace. Regarding Colombian President Belisario Betancur's recent visit with Mexican President Miguel de la Madrid, the Uruguayan ambassador to Mexico said they discussed matters related to peace in Central America because this is the backbone of the American hemisphere. Rovira Beloso said it is expected that a consensus will be reached during the next meeting of vice foreign minister of the Contadora Group, to be held in Panama on 11-12 April, and that a final solution to the regional conflicts will be reached.

SANGUINETTI, MILITARY ENGAGED IN 'SILENT STRUGGLE'

PY290128 Paris AFP in Spanish 1600 GMT 28 Mar 85

[By R. Enrique Vidal]

[Text] Montevideo, 28 Mar (AFP) -- Diplomatic circles in Montevideo today shared the belief that the democratic Uruguayan Government, barely 4 weeks in power, has launched a silent struggle against the military branch, apparently aimed at restricting the scope of its independence.

Secret meetings of retired officers, allegedly tapped phones, and veiled political assessments by members of the Armed Forces have become part of a web that constitutional President Julio Sanguinetti and the Congress are trying to unravel in order to strengthen their administration. In fact, reliable sources have disclosed to AFP that Sanguinetti engaged in this silent struggle 15 days ago at a meeting he held with Army, Navy, and Air Force officers. At the meeting, which Sanguinetti attended together with his defense minister, the veteran politician Juan Vicente Chiarino, the chief executive outlined the general guidelines of his policy toward the miltary.

His statement prompted an immediate meeting of retired officers called, according to some news media, by General Esteban Cristi, who certain circles believe to be one of the staunchest representatives of the so-called national security doctrine. In view of the unprofessional nature of the meeting, congressional sectors favor punishment, if it can be proved that the meeting did take place, while Defense Minsitry sources have told AFP that it is in the process of collecting information.

The Defense Committee of the Chamber of Deputies has asked Minister Chiarino to report on an alleged military request made to the state telecommunications agency for a recording of Chiarino's remarks to the press.

One of the members of this committee also emphasized the need to find out whether the instructions to tap many telephones issued by the previous regime have been withdrawn. Meanwhile, the Senate has also expressed an interest in these issues.

Unable to voice their political positions, the Armed Forces last weekend were forced to swallow some rather bitter criticisms uttered by Wilson Ferreira Aldunate, leader of the Blanco Party (center left), who accused the last de facto president, Lieutenant General Gregorio Alvarez, retired, of several economic crimes.

Meanwhile, Sanguinetti is getting ready for his next blow, and the Blanco Party is working on a draft bill by which some 450 military officers retired during the last 12 years could be reinstated.

The president decided a few hours ago to change the name of the day on which the military honor the memory of those who fell during the struggle against subversion. Sanguinetti has ordered that the day honor the memory of those who died defending the institutions, a homage to all those civilians, policemen, and members of the Armed Forces who lost their lives to preserve the democratic and republican system.

In addition, the Blanco Party has revealed its desire to reinstate and promote a group of officers dismissed for their support of the constitutional regime. Among this group are some 16 generals who would restore some sort of political balance within the Armed Forces.

Today, a progovernment weekly published a newsletter which circulates among Army officers reporting in detail on past congressional sessions. This report proves, according to the weekly, that the military also have their direct sources in the parties and that these sources provide them with up-to-date reports on political activities.

PCU'S ARISMENDI DISCUSSES CURRENT POLITICAL SITUATION

AU041251 East Berlin NEUES DEUTSCHLAND in German 3 Apr 85 p 5

[Text] Montevideo (ADN) -- Rodney Arismendi, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Uruguay [PCU], has given the following interview to ADN:

Question: How do you characterize the new situation in Uruguay following President Julio Maria Sanguinetti taking over the government and the Communist Party being fully legalized?

Answer: With the overthrow of the dictatorship a new historic period has begun in our country. The untiring struggle of the working people and the masses led by the people's movement, the Broad Front, the Interunion Workers Plenum, and the National Confederation of Workers, the students movement Federation of Uruguayan University Students and our party made this significant victory possible. To restore democratic conditions, heroes of the resistance such as the president of the Broad Front, Liber Seregni, as well as thousands of Communists languished in the dictatorship's prisons.

I want to recall that the establishment of the military dictatorship in June 1973 was to initiate a change in Uruguay controlled by the United States. The main aim of this policy was to apply the "doctrine of national security," under the cover of which all democratic achievements of the Uruguayan people were to be liquidated. Above all, the Communist Party was to be smashed and put out of action for the next 50 years.

Our working people are now working to regain the rights they were deprived of by the military. A few days ago the last political prisoners were able to leave the infamous "Liberated" military prison. A short time ago our party celebrated its legalization at a mass meeting in Montevideo. The university is again headed by renowned lecturer, and thousands of working people who were dismissed because of their political attitudes are returning to their places of work.

Question: The Broad Front emerged from the November election as an important force. How do you assess this success and what are the prospects of the Broad Front in Uruguay's future?

Answer: With the election results the Broad Front proved that it is a political force that must be taken seriously and which, despite terror and reprisals, proved able to cope with the military regime. At present, it represents the will of the masses to implement progressive changes in our country, requirements that are truly democratic, that are against the oligarchy and U.S. imperialism and for the benefit of the people. Of particularly great importance now is the fact that the Broad Front has become the third political force in Uruguay and that the election results have broken the existing monopoly of the two bourgeois parties, the Colorado and National Parties. We Communists regard the Broad Front as a great political and social alliance of the working people, of the middle classes in the cities and rural areas, of the students and the intellectuals, as well as of certain parts of the national bourgeoisie.

Our party has always regarded the Broad Front as a people's movement formed by the masses to implement decisive democratic and anti-imperialist changes, which are to lead Urguuay to socialism. In order to achieve this, it must strengthen its own ranks. Liber Seregni recently stressed that the people's movement must prepare to take over the government. The Communists are doing everything possible to ideologically and organizationally strengthen the Broad Front.

Question: What are the main tasks in the new period that you mentioned?

Answer: The most important concern is the strengthening of the democratic conditions and the uniform action of all democratic forces with the aim of eliminating the existing dangerous remnants of the fascist dictatorship. This means the full application and expanion of the democratic rights and freedoms of the people.

This can only be achieved by an increased mobilization of the working people, by implementing their demands for an immediate improvement of the living conditions, better wages, and annulment of all reactionary laws and orders adopted by the dictatorship. At the same time, measures aimed at changing the structure must be implemented, such as for instance the nationalization of the foreign banks and foreign trade as well as a land reform. Another urgent issue is a respite in the payment of $5 billion in foreign debts.

Question: In Geneva, negotiations between the Soviet Union and the United States have been started on preventing an arms race in space and ending it on earth. What significance do you attack to these talks and what policy does Uruguay pursue?

Answer: The PCU strongly supports the prevention of a militarization of space and the limitation and reduction of nuclear armaments. We have always unreservedly agreed to the manifold peace initiatives of the Soviet Union and the other socialist states, of course also to those of the GDR.

For the Latin American countries, peace and the peaceful coexistence of states of diverse social systems are of great importance.

U.S. imperialism, which also wants to militarize space, and which turns against a reduction of the nuclear armaments is the main enemy of our peoples. It threatens socialist Cuba, and arms the counterrevolutionary gangs which attack Sandinist Nicaragua from Honduras and Costa Rica. For years the United States has been arming the regime in El Salvador in the struggle against the "Farabundo Marti" liberation movement. The very same forces that create "star wars" plans in the Pentagon undertake everything to prevent a peaceful solution, as is aimed at, for example, by the Contadora Group.

Therefore, we and the Broad Front welcome the policy of peaceful coexistence announced by the government of president Julio Maria Sanguinetti and its support for a peaceful solution of the problems in Central America. Broad political forces of our country resolutely support the efforts of Uruguay's Government to reaffirm the right of the peoples to self-determination, national independence, and sovereignty. Of course, we also support initial steps to resume diplomatic relations with socialist Cuba.

Question: For many years Uruguay and the GDR have had diplomatic and commercial relations. As early as 1956 a trade representation of the GDR was set up in Montevideo and in December 1972 diplomatic relations between the two countries were resumed. What are the prospects of these relations under the new conditions?

Answer: In its relations with Uruguay the GDR has always applied the principles of peaceful coexistence and sovereignty. These relations were advantageous to both states. For the Uruguayan Communists and the majority of the working people, the GDR is the first state on German soil to implement a consistent peace policy in Europe. I want to stress this particularly on the 40th anniversary of the victory over Hitler's fascism.

Of course, I see good prospects for expanding the political and commercial relations between our countries under the democratic conditions in existence since 1 March in Uruguay.

I want to use the occasion to cordially thank the GDR Government; the SED Central Committee general secretary and GDR State Council chairman, Erich Honecker; and the SED; as well as the GDR people for the solidarity granted to us in the difficult years of the struggle against the dictatorship.

WORKERS OCCUPY PAPER MANUFACTURING PLANTS

PY060057 Montevideo Radio Carve in Spanish 0000 GMT 6 Apr 85

[Text] All paper manufacturing plants have been occupied. The measure was decreed by the Uruguayan Federation of Paper and Cardboard Workers in response to the repeatedly negative position displayed by paper manufacturers toward the request submitted to them on 10 December 1984. The federation has justified the decision on the grounds that the national paper factory imposed a restrictive measure, preventing workers from entering the plant on 4 April. The federation has pointed out that workers are willing to engage in a dialogue and negotiate with the employers in search of a solution to the difficult situation, which affects more than 2,000 workers, unlike the employers association, which has delayed the negotiations without seeking to narrow differences.

ARDITO BARLETTA DISCUSSES ECONOMIC SITUATION

PA040158 San Jose LA REPUBLICA in Spanish 19 Mar 85 p 4

[Part 1 of report on "exclusive" interview with President Nicolas Ardito Barletta by Danilo Arias Madrigal; date and place not given]

[Excerpts] "There will be no social explosion in Panama because of the crisis," 47-year-old Panamanian President Nicolas Ardito Barletta, former vice president of the World Bank for 6 years, who assumed the presidency 5 months ago, stated emphatically: "There will be no explosion."

He said: "We have requested a shared sacrifice at this initial stage so that we can overcome the crisis in the country." He added: "And we have done so fully convinced that there will be an improvement in Panama in the next 18 to 24 months." He explained: "No greater level of sacrifice will ever be expected of the Panamanians." The sacrifices include the elimination of subsidies, a reduction in the national budget, wage adjustments, and a fight against inflation.

[Arias Madrigal] Will there be an improvement in the situation?

[Ardito Barletta] "A gradual improvement will be reflected in the generation of jobs and in other activities."

[Arias Madrigal] How will this improvement occur?

[Ardito Barletta] "Very slowly in the beginning and of a more permanent nature later on."

In the president's opinion "we are ending 2 years of economic recession in Panama. This has led to an increase in the rate of unemployment and has stymied economic improvement."

The rate of unemployment in Panama is 14 percent, "which is too high for this country," Barletta explained. "Our principal priorities are to fight the economic recession and strengthen the democratic system of government." He explained his strategy:

1) To organize Panamanian public finances with a budget in keeping with our reality.
2) To manage the foreign debt ($3.7 million).
3) To provide basic services to the people.
4) To make a commitment of social development to the Panamanian people.
5) To observe great austerity in the handling of public finances.
6) To exercise efficiency in public spending.
7) To modernize the public administration to provide better services which are required by the economy and the Panamanian people.

He speaks enthusiastically about the reactivation and stimulation of all private economic activities in Panama.

[Arias Madrigal] What sectors?

[Ardito Barletta] Agriculture-livestock, light industry, heavy industry, the service industry (pertaining to our geographic position), construction, and tourism.

[Arias Madrigal] How?

[Ardito Barletta] We adopt laws, administrative measures, and decisions to promote stimulation. All of this is done in a coordinated manner after consultatons (he stresses consultations) with workers and businessmen, because the recovery of investments, productivity, and exports depends on the efforts of all concerned.

Panama exports approximately $1 billion, but imports close to $1.3 million. "Without an increase in exports we cannot improve Panama's international balance of payments, which is essential for economic recovery." "Our efforts are centered on that stimulation which requires faith and confidence, a lot of consultations, a lot of dialogue, and great participation and specific action in some fields."

[Arias Madrigal] What about the neglected one, he who has nothing?

[Ardito Barletta] We have strengthened the "floor and roof" programs for plain, cheap housing projects to resolve the problem of urban squatters. They are provided streets, electricity, and water. The family, through its own effort, builds its home, also helping in this manner in the formation and integration of the family component.

There will be no chaos here. There will not be any social upheaval here. The words of the president about the crisis are with a view to the future and Panama's rebirth in the midst of the crisis. Severe criticism has been voiced by the government, in general and by some institutions in particular. Ardito Barletta knows this: "It is difficult to govern and he stresses: "Panamanians aspire to a change in our lives, to the transformation of our society, to a Panama in which we will share solidarity like a big family, sharing difficulties and successes, hardships, and abundance."

"We Panamanians want the economic situation to improve. We want jobs to be generated and more wealth distributed among the poor and needy so that the neglected ones can secure the minimum, indispensable material goods to lead a secure, dignified life."

[Arias Madrigal] How are the relations with the National Defense Forces and General Manuel Antonio Noriega?

The president responds in a calm, smooth manner. "I maintain an excellent working relationship with the "National Defense Forces, which is a military body that is part of the state apparatus and the civilian government that administers the country."

Regarding Noriega: "Personally, I have excellent working and personal relations with Gen Manuel Antonio Noriega as well as with other officers of the Defense Forces. Barletta summarizes his response in this manner: "We believe that the effort and contribution made by the Defense Forces to support the strengthening of democracy in Panama is important, and is expected by the Panamanian people."

Central American Peace

PA040415 San Jose LA REPUBLICA in Spanish 20 Mar 85 p 4

[Report on Part 2 and last part of "exclusive" interview with President Nicolas Ardito Barletta by Danilo Arias Madrigal; date and place not given] -- quotation marks as received]

[Excerpts] "Panama aspires to having democracy and peace in Central America," stated Dr Nicolas Ardito Barletta, president of Panama, in an exclusive interview granted to this newspaper. One immediately notices that the Panamanian president, who took office last 11 October, is concerned over the situation that prevails in the Central American region. However, he does not protect himself with the often-mouthed statement of "support for the Contadora Group," but rather explains his arguments about the region's problems.

For the Panamanian president, the position of Panama in the "Contadora Group"(Mexico, Colombia, Panama, and Venezuela) is "like a catalytic agent for the peace efforts of the Central American countries." "Our purpose is to assist the Central American countries in finding the path of peace and cooperation." Underscoring this, Ardito Barletta states clearly: "Panama does not wish to impose anything on its Central American brothers because in the long run, they will

have to adopt the decisions for themselves." He notes: "Panama is not imposing anything, but is rather acting in a manner that will permit us to expand communications, dialogue, and negotiations among the countries of Central America." "This is a sort of bridge that will enable the countries themselves to attain the objectives sought through the peace agreement that is being negotiated." Engaging in an analysis of what a peace agreement would be, the Panamanian president stressed: "We believe that a peace agreement, of course, must have sufficient elements of guarantee for each one of the participants so that there can be confidence."

[Arias Madrigal] Can you be a little more specific, Mr President?

[Ardito Barletta] In other words, to create the mechanisms that will permit a genuine execution of the pact."

[Arias Madrigal] Will the objective be achieved?

[Ardito Barletta] Whether or not it is achieved depends on the efforts and desire of the countries of Central America.

[Arias Madrigal] What do you think?

]Ardito Marletta] I think that with everyone's effort, I insist that everyone must be involved, the agreement can be achieved.

[Arias Madrigal] How do you assess what has been achieved thus far?

[Ardito Barletta] I think that much has been accomplished in the sense of being able to talk constructively about the various issues that concern each one of the countries of Central America to find formulas that offer guarantees to each country.

[Arias Madrigal] But?

[Ardito Barletta] Well, its achievement depends on the will, firmness, and realism of the countries.

[Arias Madrigal] And Panama?

[Ardito Barletta] My country wants to continue to cooperate. We believe in peace.

For Nicolas Ardito Barletta, the specific case of Nicaragua "affects Panama." Immediately, after affirming this he notes: "What happens in any country in Central America affects Panama because we are neighbors, because we are close."

[Arias Madrigal] How is it affected?

[Ardito Barletta] We are committed to the objectives of democracy and liberty, to respect for human rights, to an open economy, and to the universal principle of nonintervention in the domestic affairs of other countries. When Barletta spoke of the domestic peace in each country, saying: "Domestic peace is necessary and we believe that a country can find it easier to achieve it in a democratic system, in an open system."

[Arias Madrigal] What other concerns do you have?

[Ardito Barletta] We Panamanians are concerned that circumstances with Central America countries which are our natural neighbors, could provoke the interventions of other countries into the region.

[Arias Madrigal] Then?

[Ardito Barletta] That is why we believe that negotiations must be redoubled, must be based on mutual respect, and must contain guarantees to maintain democratic values, all with the final objective of preserving peace.

He takes a look at the Central American region (50,000 dead and 100,000 exiled in 6 years) and exclaims: "What is happening in Central America should serve as a lesson to Panama. It should strengthen us in our belief in the value of peaceful understanding, of reconciliation, of social justice, of citizen participation, of tolerance for political pluralism, and of respect for democratic institutions."

Leaving Central America, the president explains: "We must strengthen the ties of friendship and cooperation with the underdeveloped countries of America, Asia, Europe." "We must have mature relations with the United States, a world power with which we have special ties for geographical and historical reasons."

As for Latin America, "we cannot underestimate the threat to our peace, tranquillity, and prosperity posed by the socioeconomic difficulties in Latin America (together the Latin American countries have an overall total debt of $400 billion). On the dire economic Latin America situation, the Panamanian president said: "we have solidarity with Latin America."

The Torrijos-Carter treaties, which were signed in 1978, provided for a gradual turnover of the canal to Panama, which will be completed by the year 2000.

[Arias Madrigal] What about the Barletta-Reagan relations?

[Ardito Barletta] They are very cordial. "Panama and the United States will be equal partners in the operation of the Panama Canal until the year 2000 when the canal will pass totally to Panama."

Barletta added: "We cooperate with the United States in matters of mutual interest." And he noted: "We cooperate in a positive manner on that which we agree on. On that which we disagree on we observe the respect of two friends who know how to safeguard their own identities."

He described United States-Panama relations as "lofty, dignified relations." "Panama defends the basic principles of its independence as a country."

[Arias Madrigal] Does the United States honor the canal treaties?

[Ardito Barletta] The implementation is satisfactory, but there are problems pending in the implementation of the Torrijos-Carter treaties because of clauses put in by the U.S. Congress restricting the spirit and letter of some fundamental aspects of the treaties.

[Arias Madrigal] What will you do?

[Ardito Barletta] We will continue to insist, because Panama is sincere on having the implementation of the treaties modified, to better respond to the provisions of the treaties.

For Ardito Barletta "we are on an equal footing with the United States." And "the treaties must be fulfilled, because that was the struggle of the Panamanian people which will culminate on 31 December 1999."

The Panamanian president is enthusiastic when he talks about Costa Rica: "Our relations are exemplary. We are neighbors with an imaginary border. Costa Rica and Panama are like a single country."

"It is a country that is dearly loved by all Panamanians." And then he added: "Anything that is for the well-being of Costa Rica is considered to be for the well-being of Panama too."

He noted: "The relations are becoming increasingly stronger. We are neighbors not only because of the cordiality between the governments and between the people, but also because of our esteem and respect for each other." He stressed the programs of border integration and joint assistance in health and education. "Panama and Costa Rica set an example for the rest of the countries. That is the truth," Ardito Barletta stated.

COSTA RICA

ALLEGED DRUG TRAFFICKER CARO EXPELLED TO MEXICO

PA060332 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 0230 GMT 6 Apr 85

[Excerpt] San Jose, 5 Apr (ACAN-EFE) -- According to government spokesman, Costa Rican authorities have ordered the expulsion of Mexican drug trafficker Rafael Caro Quintero and his four bodyguards because they had not committed any crimes here. It was also said that they were expelled to get rid of this "hot potato." The deportation order was issued by President Luis Alberto Monge and Public Security minister Benjamin Piza. Caro and his men were detained in San Jose yesterday morning during a Costa Rican police lightning operation that lasted 7 minutes.

The drug traffickers left Costa Rica onboard two aircraft sent by Mexico's Attorney General's Office.

In utmost secrecy, "so that the press could not learn of what was going on," and surrounded by strict security measures, the five men were taken to the international airport at 1545 local time (2145 GMT) by heavily armed security agents. Almost at the same time, Mexican Ambassador Maria Luisa Leal arrived, accompanied by young Sara Cosio Gaona, who was under the ambassador's protection after she was rescued by the Costa Rican police at the same place where the presumed criminals were arrested. According to her story, Sara had been abducted by Caro in Guadalajara, Mexico, on 15 March and forcibly brought to Costa Rica.

The aircraft took off from the Juan Santamaria Airport at 1630 local time (2230 GMT) and headed for Mexico, according to the flight plans. The authorities approached by ACAN-EFE said the expulsion order was issued on the basis of charges that these people had "no documentation." They did not have passports or visas and in addition to this, they gave phony names to authorities.

Sara Cosio was repatriated on a request from her relatives, one of whom is an important leader of the Institutional Revolutionary Party (PRI), which has been in power in Mexico for the past 56 years.

The leader of the group, Rafael Caro Quintero, identified himself to the authorities as Marco Antonio Rios Valenzuela. With the cooperation of Interpol, his real name was established.

The other arrested persons identified themselves as Miguel Angel Lugo Vega, Jose Albino Bazan Padilla, Jose Luis Beltran Alvarado, and Juan Francisco Hernandex Ochoa. The authorities believe these are also phony names.

SANDINIST HOWITZER SHELL HITS TERRITORY

PA072259 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2151 GMT 7 Apr 85

[Text] San Jose, 7 Apr (ACAN-EFE) -- A Soviet-made howitzer shell fired by the Sandinist Army fell in Costa Rican territory on 3 April. This information was released today by Colonel Lesmez Chaves, deputy director of Costa Rica's Civil Guard.

According to Chaves, the shell fell some 500 meters inside Costa Rican territory. It fell near some houses in the region of Tiricias, San Carlos, 250 km north of this capital. The shell killed five cows.

The Civil Guard deputy said that according to reports received in San Jose, other mortars "violated the national territory" and fell near Tiricias without producing any important damage. This happened after a 5-hour clash between Sandinist Army troops and forces of Eden Pastora's Democratic Revolutionary Alliance [ARDE]. About 2,000 ARDE guerrillas operate in Nicaragua's southern region, near the Costa Rican border. Chaves said: "The fighting has increased in recent days and explosions are keeping the Costa Rican people who live in the area in a state of alarm." Chaves said that the Costa Rican authorities picked up parts of the shell to be delivered as evidence to the higher authorities.

COMMUNISTS SEND GREETINGS TO HUNGARIAN PARTY

PA072018 San Jose LIBERTAD in Spanish 29 Mar-4 Apr 85 p 4

[Message to the Central Committee of the Hungarian Socialist Workers Party (MSZMP), from the Central Committee of the Costa Rican Peoples Party, issued in San Jose on 18 March]

[Text] Dear Comrades: Please receive the fraternal and solidaristic greeting of the Costa Rican communists on the occasion of the commemoration of your 13th Congress.

We are convinced that the results of this 13th congress of the Hungarian Communists will be an important contribution to the development of socialist society in Hungary and the strengthening of the prominent role of the MSZMP in the international communist and labor movement.

The Costa Rican Communists regard highly the solidarity of the Hungarian Communists and people with the struggles of the Central American peoples. We also regard highly the traditional ties of international friendship and cooperation existing between the Communists of Hungary and Costa Rica. We hope to strengthen and develop these ties in the future.

With best wishes for success in the deliberations of the 13th congress, please receive our fraternal and revolutionary greeting.

Central Committee of the Costa Rican Peoples Party

'LEFTIST' FRONT CHOOSES PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE

PA042243 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1200 GMT 1 Apr 85

[Text] In an event held at San Jose's Plaza Theater yesterday, Rodrigo Gutierrez was proclaimed presidential candidate of the Popular Democratic Union. This organization is composed of the Popular Vanguard Party (PVP) and the Broad Democratic Front. The participants in yesterday's event were Arnoldo Ferreto, Humberto Vargas Carbonell, Mario Devandas, Luis [name indistinct], [name indistinct], Rodrigo Urena, and [name indistinct].

With the slogan "Now It is the People's Turn," those in the Plaza Theater expressed their support for Gutierrez in the first event of electoral campaign.

Mario Devandas, a member of the Broad Democratic Front, stressed that despite the obstacles presented and efforts made by some sectors to divide the people, they have maintained their unity and combativeness.

He added that his organization is a new one and that it is neither communist nor Marxist. However, he said that it is not anticommunist, anti-Marxist, or opportunistic. The former member of the Socialist Party said that the task and path to liberate the people are difficult. He said that all constructive efforts are welcome in this mission. Mario Devandas said that the PVP has achieved a prominent place in the political realm due to its years of struggle.

Rejecting some sector's charges of dogmatism and extremism, Mario Devandas said: We are proud to be dogmatic. Those who accuse us of being extremist and dogmatic do so in order to justify attempts to divide us, but we will never carry out actions that go against the feelings, aspirations, and needs of the people. Devandas added: There is a willingness to hold a dialogue but we are dogmatic to the point that we uphold the sacred dogma of struggling without yielding to the enemies of the people -- Yankee imperialism and U.S. monopolies. Mario Devandas said he is proud of the candidacy of Gutierrez, whom he described as an outstanding son of the Costa Rican people.

Humberto Vargas Carbonell, secretary general of the PVP, said that the current electoral campaign should be a crusade to unite the people. The deputy said that it is time to stop speculating about the division of the left and the popular forces in this country. We are not going to elect prosecutors [fiscal] of the people. We are not trying to be a pressure group against the large bourgeois parties. We do not plan to improve the system of exploitation, crime, and misery that the National Liberation Party and Social Christian Unity Party represent, Vargas Carbonell said.

In his nomination acceptance speech, Rodrigo Gutierrez said that the country is facing a difficult time. He said that there is a sector that is present in all the fatherland's [word indistinct] and holds all political power, where sovereignty and popular will should instead prevail. Meanwhile, he said, the popular masses are experiencing a miserable situation, as he confirmed in recent visits throughout the country. According to the presidential candidate, the biggest problems for Costa Ricans are unemployment and underemployment.

Gutierrez said that the unity of the popular forces should be without any exclusions or prior conditions but with respect for the independence and autonomy of each [words indistinct]. He said that this alliance should be formed around a single program of unyielding defense of the people's and fatherland's interests. The alliance's actions should be aimed at turning the political organization into a powerful and invincible popular fist that will hit the enemy's heart until it is turned to dust, Gutierrez said.

EL SALVADOR

PA060201 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 0119 GMT 6 Apr 85

[Text] San Salvador, 5 Apr (REUTER) -- A military spokesman said today that he believed Joaquin Villalobos, one of El Salvador's most important leftist guerrilla leaders, to be dead. Armed forces spokesman Major Carlos Aviles told REUTER that, according to an Army reserve member in Morazan Department, Villalobos, leader of the People's Revolutionary Army, ERP, had been seriously wounded sometime during the past few days.

There was no independent confirmation of the rumor or any guerrilla reaction to the Army report.

Villalobos has been considered the strategist who organized the various Salvadoran guerrilla groups into battalion-sized conventional combat units. The ERP is one of five rebel groups that fight against the pro-U.S. San Salvador government. The five groups form the FMLN. Aviles did not say when Villalobos, 33, was supposed to have been wounded, but reports from other military sources have suggested that Villalobos was wounded between 28 March and 4 April.

ARMED FORCES ANNOUNCE COMMAND POST CHANGES

PA071921 Hamburg DPA in Spanish 1855 GMT 7 Apr 85

[Text] San Salvador, 7 Apr (DPA) -- The latest general order of the Armed Forces, published today, announces some changes in command posts in several detachments of the country.

Colonel Julio Agustin Trujillo, commander of the 1st Infantry Brigade of the northwestern part of the capital, was replaced by Colonel Leopoldo Antonio Hernandez, who held the post of commander of the 1st Artillery Brigade headquartered in San Juan Opico, La Libertad Department, 20 km west of the capital.

Col Agustin Trujillo will become deputy director of the Armed Forces Studies Center, where he will replace Lieutenant Colonel Carlos Alfonso Rivas, who has been appointed director of Civic Military Action, replacing Colonel Gustavo Atilio Hernandez, who has been assigned as director of the General Traffic Department.

Colonel Oscar Nelson Bolanos, who held the post of director of general traffic until today, is now on reserve status on the Joint General Staff of the Armed Forces. The same general order announces the official appointment of Major Armando Aviles as chief of public relations of the Armed Forces Press Committee.

GUERRILLAS PLAN RELEASE OF PRISONERS IN NORTH

PA071326 Hamburg DPA in Spanish 0839 GMT 7 Apr 85

[Text] San Salvador, 7 Apr (DPA) -- According to a Salvadoran guerrilla spokesman, a group of soldiers taken prisoner by the guerrilla movement will be released in the northern part of the country today.

The release will take place at 1000, Salvadoran time, in the jurisdiction of 'Dulce Nombre de Maria, Chalatenango Department, a spokesman for the FMLN-FDR movement informed media in San Salvador. The prisoners who will be returned belong to the 4th Infantry Brigade in El Paraiso. The guerrilla spokesman did not specify whether Msgr Arturo Rivera y Damas, bishop of San Salvador, will be present at the prisoners' release ceremony.

Meanwhile, the rebel radio station Farabundo Marti Radio claimed that its forces inflicted 90 casualties on the Army during fighting over the past week in northern Chalatenango. The Salvadoran Army launched a vast counterinsurgency operation on 18 March in Chalatenango, one of the principal FMLN-FDR rebel redoubts. The main actions were staged in the townships of La Reina, La Laguna, Comalapa, and San Fernando.

Meanwhile, yesterday the guerrillas commemorated the second anniversary of the death of Commander Melida Anaya Montes (Ana Maria), which occurred on 6 April 1983 in Managua.

Melida Anaya Montes was the second in command of the People's Liberation Forces (FPL), one of the strongest groups of the five that comprise the FMLN.

MPSC CRITICIZES ELECTION, SUPPORTS PARTICIPATION

PA301600 San Salvador EL MUNDO in Spanish 27 Mar 85 p 50

[Advertisement by the Social Christian Peoples Movement, MPSC]

[Excerpt] The elections of March 1985, like those of 1982 and 1983, will take place under undemocratic conditions: under the state of seige, with the presence of death squads, with the green ones [Christian Democratic Party (PDC)] eliminating their political enemies with the same vices -- yesterday, those of the National Coalition Party [PNC], and today those of the PDC -- to coerce the voters and abuse state resources for partisan purposes; in all, a state of terror, which has made impossible the real participation of forces known to all, such as the FDR-FMLN, consequently depriving the people of their right to choose among various alternatives.

The leaders of the Guatemalan Socialist Democratic Party have used the occasion of their present electoral process to express their position publicly. By the same token, at 1500 on election day in Nicaragua the spokesman of the political and armed opposition, Arturo Cruz, held a press conference with hundreds of newsmen in Managua. In our electoral process, we do not have even these minimum freedoms. Does Duarte think that any leader of the FDR could do the same as Cruz in San Salvador on 31 March and continue living?

Further analyzing the upcoming elections for deputies and mayors, it is quite evident that the situation of the Legislative Assembly will not change, that the goal of the Christian Democrats to obtain a majority in the Assembly is nothing but a dream, as they would have to receive 10 percent more votes at the national level and obtain over 52 percent of the votes in eight departments. We ask ourselves: How are they going to achieve this? The past months of Christian Democratic government have produced no specific achievements, as the economic crisis is even worse than the middle of last year, and unemployment and prices have increased. Furthermore, the positive step taken on the dialogue in October and November was followed in December, January, February, and March by a shameful reversion caused by pressures from the extreme right.

Elsewhere, the coalition of the Nationalist Republican Alliance [ARENA], PCN, and the Salvadoran Authentic Institutional Party [PAISA] serves above all as a defense against the PDC, as its only objective is to maintain a majority in the Assembly; that is, to try to maintain the present situation which permits them to keep the Duarte regime under constant check.

To think that any reorganization of the opposition forces after the upcoming elections will result in a "political center" to bring peace and stability to the country is mere political shortsightedness and is unrealistic. Peace can be achieved only through dialogue and negotiations.

The MPSC therefore believes that these elections respond only to the counterinsurgency plan the North Americans are trying to implement in our country. These elections lack the minimum democratic conditions to permit the expression of all representatives sectors of the people; they will not change the composition of power; and in the end they will serve to advance the political plans of Washington and not the interests of the Salvadoran people.

The war will continue after the elections, but we maintain that it is not with military actions or boycotts that the elections should be challenged. The people's answer in the electoral event should be political and centered on the true alternative of a political solution through dialogue and negotiations. Therefore, the MPSC calls on all sectors of the nation to promote a national forum for dialogue, which would exclude no social or political force and in which the national problems and their possible solutions would be rationally discussed, thus achieving our highest aspiration, which is peace with justice and freedom.

We do not ask the Salvadoran people to vote for any particular candidate or party, because none of them represents an alternative for a solution, but we do exhort them to take advantage of 31 March to express clearly their more generalized aspiration: dialogue and negotiation.

For a peace with justice and peace; MPSC, member of the FDR

VENCEREMOS CITES VIDES ON ARMY'S ROLE IN ELECTIONS

PA051924 (Clandestine) Radio Vencerемos in Spanish to El Salvador 0000 GMT 5 Apr 85

[Station commentary]

[Text] They lost a card game. The Armed Forces are involved in the feud that resulted in the uncovering of the electoral fraud because they are, in fact, the protagonists. On the evening of 2 April a number of internal meetings were held as soon as the Armed Forces learned about an appeal requesting annulment of the elections presented by the Nationalist Republican Alliance-National Conciliation Party [ARENA-PCN] coalition, implicating the Armed Forces in the electoral fraud to favor the pro-imperialist policy of Duarte.

In those meetings the military leaders agreed to wash their hands of any involvement in the fraud they had committed, because this would seriously impair the image they need to maintain to continue receiving aid from the United States, which they need to remain afloat.

The next day, on the afternoon of 3 April, all commanders belonging to the military high command listened in total silence to the statement by General Carlos Eugenio Vides Casanova, defense and public security minister, to the press regarding the elections. Accusations against the Armed Forces and the facts themselves are so obvious that everyone expected a few clever words from the Armed Forces chief [title as heard]. Under the stares of high command members, Vides Casanova, with a voice reflecting some fear or annoyance, actually made some things very clear, such as: To tidy up the honor of the Armed Forces in the face of the charges of electoral fraud, Vides Casanova mentioned the very high costs incurred by the Armed Forces to ensure elections in El Salvador. With this statement the Army chief himself acknowledged that each electoral process imposed by the United States has significantly deteriorated the government Army in human, materiel, and moral terms. The minister acknowledged that to ensure the 31 March elections the Armed Forces had to make a special effort in all areas where the electoral parties no longer maintain political groups as a result of FMLN political presence. The defense minister acknowledged that this effort claimed the lives of 71 soldiers, 146 soldiers were wounded, and that 5 are missing as a result of clashes to ensure elections in areas and municipalities where there were no electoral boards or candidates; where the military had planned to commit a fraud in favor of Duarte's pro-imperialist policy.

In other words, a deep crisis and a confusing feud emerged after the elections and fraud, and after the public learned about the Armed Forces' role in that fraud.

To control this situation General Vides Casanova, the Armed Forces chief himself, was forced to uncover what they have always tried to conceal from the people and the soldiers themselves: that the FMLN offensive poses such a critical situation for the Army that it would not be able to survice another electoral round.

General Vides Casanova said it clearly: While the political parties insult each other on television, the Armed Forces supply the dead. He also said: The Armed Forces are sacrificing themselves on the battlefield to give security to the elections; we cannot allow another election to take place at the whim of the political parties, as if it were a card game. This clearly shows the high price that must be paid to hold elections amid a war. The defense minister also clearly set forth another truth: The elections were a total political failure, a dirty game involving politickers. To quote Vides Casanova himself, it is a card game; a card game in which the people's vote does not count; in which the people's interests do not counter either.

This is also accomplished at the expense of many soldiers' lives, who do not have the foggiest idea that their officers are manipulating the results of those elections for which they are endangering their lives in vain. Vides Casanova acknowledged that the voting has no value in determining the elections' outcome; what counts is to present results satisfying the demands of a select public concentrated in the White House in Washington, because in the end it is Ronald Reagan who grants them millions of dollars and keeps them alive amid a war that is threatening to eliminate them.

This is why Vides Casanova, regardless of whether the result will satisfy or upset any political party, said clearly that the Armed Forces is not willing to defend another electoral show and clearly demanded from the parties a definite end to this issue by negotiating the electoral result. In the card game taking place during this vacation, the ARENA-PCN coalition and the Christian Democratic Party have many deputy seats to distribute among themselves.

HONDURAS

CODEH PRESENTS REPORT ON HUMAN RIGHTS AT UN

PA302248 San Pedro Sula TIEMPO in Spanish 28 Mar 85 p 5

[All figures, quotation marks as published]

[Text] Tegucigalpa -- A few hours before the deadline established by the Armed Forces to present a new report on missing persons, the Honduran Human Rights Committee [CODEH] yesterday reported that it started at the United Nations that "the doctrine of national security continues to be applied" in Honduras. The report presented in Geneva by CODEH specified that 147 persons, including Hondurans and foreigners, have disappeared in Honduras since 1980.

The increasing lack of respect for human rights worsened in mid-April 1981, when a Salvadoran family whose surname was Barilla, was kidnapped by state security agents in the Miramontes neighborhood. They were deported to their country of origin. This lack of respect for human rights continued with the kidnapping of union advisers Tomas Nativi and Fidel Martinez on the morning of 11 June 1981. Both were forcibly taken from a house in the El Hogar neighborhood in this capital by a contingent of about 12 agents.

The latest details obtained on missing persons concerned Jose Eduardo Lopez, arrested on 24 December 1984 in San Pedro Sula.

The report presented by CODEH at the United Nations stated that 2 Salvadorans who disappeared in 1980 remain missing, while in 1981 10 Hondurans, 22 Salvadorans, 1 Nicaraguan, 5 Guatemalans, 1 Venezuelan, 1 Eduadoran, and 11 persons of unknown nationality were reported missing.

In 1982, 24 Hondurans and 2 Nicaraguans were reported missing, and in 1983 21 Hondurans, 2 Salvadorans, and 1 Nicaraguan were reported missing. In 1984, the year of the Armed Forces' campaign to vindicate the figure rose to 36 Hondurans, 5 Salvadorans, and 1 person of unknown nationality.

The total number of missing persons in the past 4 years is 147, including 93 Hondurans, 28 Salvadorans, 6 Nicaraguans, 2 Guatemalans, 5 Costa Ricans, 1 Ecuadoran, and 1 Venezuelan. The CODEH said that"in Honduras the application of the security doctrine continues." "This could not exist without a state organization fully capable of applying it, such as the Armed Forces, with the complicity of the three branches of state."

In addition, CODEH pointed out: "The fact is that after General Alvarez Martinez' expulsion, application of the national security doctrine continued, and the Armed Forces does not want to correct its mistakes."

CODEH stated that "in order to stop an alleged flow of arms from Nicaragua to El Salvador, we tolerate the Somozist army financed by the U.S. Government."

Meanwhile, "the installation of the Regional Military Training and Security Center, CREM, was permitted in order to train Salvadoran soldiers and consolidate the military occupation of Honduran territory by U.S. military forces."

The report presented at the United Nations stated that "the triple alliance among the majority party, businessmen, and the military hierarchy has promoted and created conditions in Honduras for implementation of the national security doctrine since 1981."

The report coincides with the deadline established by the Armed Forces to present a new report on the situation of missing persons, a continuation of the first report presented to the press on 29 December 1984.

Zenaida Velasquez, president of the Committee of Relatives of Missing Detainees in Honduras, Cofadeh, said yesterday that "a serious report is necessary." "We know that they have this report, and the Armed Forces know who are responsible for these crimes, among whom are civilian and military personnel. The problem is that the persons involved hold high positions so they do not want to point them out or, of course, take them to court," she added. "We know that the president is involved, but the issuance of a true report would automatically result in a coup, because a criminal cannot be president," Mrs Velasquez said.

Meanwhile, Velasquez said that last year the Armed Forces ousted Alvarez Martinez under the pretext of his having violated human rights, but a true report was not made. This means that the persons who ousted him are also involved in the disappearances. "We know that we will probably have to struggle for a long time to learn our relatives' fate, although we are almost convinced that the true information will not be disclosed because of ranking authorities' involvement. In addition, it is obvious that the Armed Forces are not interested in solving the problem, as it rewards some of those responsible with high positions."

Velasquez mentioned the case of Major Alexander Hernandez, who was promoted to the post of director of the National Police Academy. "If they were interested in investigating, they would contact Colonel Torres Arias, who offered to give information on this case." "Torres Arias requested guarantees in order to come forward and the attorney general's office accused him of treason," Mrs Velasquez added, promising that the committee will continue to struggle until their relatives are found.

Meanwhile the Coordinating Committee for Popular Organizations, CCOP, held a mass for the safety and liberation of the missing persons.

NICARAGUA

D'ESCOTO REJECTS REAGAN PEACE PROPOSAL

PA051510 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 1446 GMT 5 Apr 85

[Text] Washington -- The Nicaraguan foreign minister last night rejected the plan proposed by President Ronald Reagan to end the U.S.-supported contra hostilities. He said that the plan is more a declaration of war; it is nothing but propaganda by a propagandist. He said: Regarding that so-called peace proposal, I would say that it is in no way a peace proposal but instead is a declaration of war. D'Escoto said that Reagan's proposal is due to the President's inability to persuade the U.S. Congress to approve an additional package of $14 million in military aid for the contras, whom D'Escoto called thugs. If Reagan wants peace, he will have to stop waging war. The end of the war depends on him, D'Escoto said. President Reagan is the one who has declared war on the Nicaraguan people and government, he said.

ENVOY TO VENEZUELA COMMENTS ON REAGAN PROPOSAL

PA080440 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0213 GMT 8 Apr 85

[Text] Caracas, 7 Apr (EFE) -- The Nicaraguan Government agrees with immediately suspending the hostilities and also with initiating peace negotiations with the counterrevolutionary leaders since both of these points have been part of the fundamental demands in the search for peace. This was stated by Nicaraguan Ambassador to Venezuela Aldo Diaz during an interview that was published today by the Caracas daily EL NACIONAL. Diaz made this statement in reference to the peace proposal presented by U.S. President Ronald Reagan.

Diaz explains that what the Nicaraugans cannot accept is that the U.S. Administration should be represented by the contras in the proposed talks. If President Reagan is really serious regarding peace, he will have to decide on an immediate return to the negotiating table in Manzanillo, or anywhere else, but directly, without any stand-ins [encubridores].

As the diplomat sees it, Reagan's proposal has five objectives: to shock the U.S. people and the people of the world; to block the forthcoming Contadora Group meeting in Panama; to secure $14 million for the contras form the U.S. Congress; to give the contras the status of a belligerent force; and to close the gap that separates him from Europe on this point.

However, the ambassador stated, Reagan will not achieve any of these goals because the news media and the congressmen have already stated their rejection, the Contadora Group has already announced that it will hold the meeting, and no one will be able to clean up the contras' well-earned image of a mercenary and assassin army.

According to Diaz, President Reagan's confusion on Central America lies in his inability to understand that the tension in the area results from very old social injustices and not from an East-West confrontation. Diaz is sure that Nicaragua will continue to count on the understanding and solidarity of most of the European and American countries in its struggle to create a more just and dignified society.

OBANDO Y BRAVO 'HARDENS' CRITICISM OF GOVERNMENT

PA051418 Paris AFP in Spanish 2137 GMT 4 Apr 85

[Text] Managua, 4 Apr (AFP) -- Archbishop of Managua Miguel Obando y Bravo today hardened his anti-Sandinist position by accusing the government of "refusing to participate in a dialogue" with the civilian and military opposition.

During a religious ceremony held in this capital on the occasion of Holy Week, Obando y Bravo attacked the Sandinist government, accusing it of depriving the Nicaraguan people of "their liberty, rights, and dignity."

"There are many mothers in Nicaragua crying over the deaths of their children, and they will continue crying as long as the dialogue of the machine guns prevails," he said. "It is very difficult for our people to adapt themselves to a government that deprives man of his dignity, his rights, and his liberties," Obando y Bravo noted before hundreds of Catholics, who frantically applauded each of his phrases.

In Nicaragua 80 percent of the population is Catholic, although a sector of the church, considered "a minority group" by the hierarchy, actively supports the government, including several priests who hold government positions. "It is very difficult for Nicaraguans to accept a government that makes them pay for social advancements with losses and drawbacks in another achievement, which is liberty," Obando y Bravo said.

Two weeks ago the bishops accepted an invitation to mediate in an eventual negotiation proposed by the rebels but warned that for this to be possible both sides should show willingness to talk. The government has said nothing in this respect.

Meanwhile, more than 10,000 Nicaraguans, including soldiers, guerrillas, and civilians, have been killed in the past 4 years in a war taking place in the mountains of northern, central, and southern Nicaragua. The war has also resulted in losses of more than $1 billion and has caused the paralyzation or postponement of economic and social development projects.

In addition, the government had to assign 50 percent of its 1985 national budget of 28 billion cordobas, about $1 billion, to defense. The sum designated for military defense is about $100 million more than Nicaragua's annual exports.

MSGR VEGA ON LACK OF RESPONSE TO MEDIATION OFFER

PA042118 Managua LA PRENSA in Spanish 29 Mar 85 pp 1, 10

[Text] Msgr Pablo Antonio Vega, president of the Nicaraguan Episcopal Conference (CEN), told LA PRENSA: "The Sandinist government has not responded to the church's public announcement of its willingness to mediate in a dialogue between the government and the other sectors involved in the conflict and war."

However, the national dialogue to seek peace has been well-received, he added.

Speaking calmly, the bishop recalled the Sandinist government's duty which is "a duty that all governments must have," to follow the paths most efficiently ensuring the personal and social guarantees of all citizens."

Taking advantage of his interview with the press, Msgr Vega urged his parishioners and Nicaraguan Catholics to practice reconciliation and penitence, "which could be the main subjects of our meditation," during Holy Week. The prelate said that three different sectors asked the church to mediate in the dialogue, namely the Permanent Human Rights Commission (CPDH), the [Ramiro Sacasa Guerrero] Democratic Coordinating Board, and Dr Arturo Cruz.

The clergyman pointed out that "the three are hopeful that the Episcopal Conference will be able to mediate and become a bridge for dialogue in view of its moral nature." Vega, who is also prelate of Chontales and Rio San Juan Departments, said that "instead of seeking dialogue," the official press is increasing tension and paving the way to violence."

Msgr Vega said that the dialogue is the solution to the problems; it should lead to establishment of mutual respect between differing groups and bases for common relations. "For the CEN, the dialogue is the logical result of love and respect for enemies as well." He added that dialogue is more necessary today because today's crisis is more evident. "It is a duty of any government to seek the paths that will more efficiently ensure the personal and social guarantees of all citizens."

He said that 5 years of experience in Nicaragua should be enough for the government "which is occupied by the FSLN today to objectively realize how difficult it is to implement socioeconomic changes based on mechanisms rejected by the people."

As examples of repressive FSLN mechanisms used against the people, the bishop mentioned partisan organizations and said that the FSLN's most serious mistake was establishing police controls on the people's actions and production. He also pointed out the "pressure on any private initiative that in the end thwarts the freedom of organization and production even within the poorest sectors of the population," He added: "The control of everything produced by a peasant including products for his own subsistence such as beans" is another example, he said.

The CEN urgently requested that the social restructuring demanded in Nicaragua be more realistic "and a more effective promotion of the fundamental rights of all Nicaraguans." He added: "The dialogue in Nicaragua is not a mere attempt to find solutions but a rationalization that will also establish citizens' right to participate in the country's economic and political life such as the state's obligation to provide overall public services to everyone. The word overall does not imply totalitarianism. An overall service is one thing and totalitarianism is another."

Discussing the issue further, Msgr Vega defined that this "overall system" is a political system aimed at achieving the welfare of all and defined "totalitarianism" as a system that seizes control of what is considered everyone's property, and dogmatizes and absolutizes state power over the rights of citizens."

During his Lenten message to Catholics, Msgr Vega said that Holy Week is the most intense time to review the meaning of our lives in view of the Christian faith.

The bishop said: "Holy Week is not only a time to recall the life of Christ in Israel and a time for man to think about the reason for his existence and coexistence in this land, but also a way to discover the path to history in the fraternal communion of all people."

PASTORA'S SON ESCAPES ASSASSINATION ATTEMPT

PA050218 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2050 GMT 4 Apr 85

[Text] San Jose, 4 Apr (ACAN-EFE) -- Alvaro Pastora Lamas, the oldest son of anti-Sandinist leader Eden Pastora Gomez (Commander "Cero"), escaped uninjured, an attempt on his life, which left a toll of five wounded, according to a report by the Voice of Sandino radio station.

In a transmission received in this capital, the official spokesman for the Democratic Revolutionary Alliance (ARDE), said that on 29 March young Pastora, 22, who is fighting with his father's forces inside Nicaragua, received a small, gift-wrapped package that contained a radio. When someone tried to turn the radio on, it exploded, as this activated an explosive charge of 300 grams of dynamite.

Alvaro Pastora did not unwrap the package. At the time of the explosion, he was attending a radio broadcast somewhere else in the guerrilla base with another rebel group.

The "gift" was opened by one of his companions, identified as "Emanuel," who was seriously wounded by the explosion. He lost his hands and suffered injuries to his face and chest. Four other rebels, identified as "Jilguero," "Perroco," "Zanate," and "Imperio," were also seriously wounded. The site where the explosion took place was totally destroyed.

According to Voice of Sandino, the package was sent to Pastora's son by an old friend who lives in one of the Chontales Department communities (Nicaragua) where the young Pastora worked as a teacher before joining the guerrillas. The package reached Alvaro Pastor's camp, in an area not specified by the rebel radio (except that it is "deep inside Nicaragua"), through ARDE's clandestine mail services 22 days after it was sent.

Alvaro Pastora Lamas, who was born in Mexico, is the son of Eden Pastora Gomez's first marriage to a Mexican woman to whom he was married during his residence in Mexico. The youth is a student and single. He joined the rebel organization in 1982 when his father declared war on the Sandinist regime. Currently, Commander "Cero" is married to a Nicaraguan woman and has three children with her: a boy and two girls. The oldest, Panfilo, 17, has also joined the guerrillas.

Voice of Sandino blamed the "sinister security forces" of the Sandinist regime for the attempt.

FDN CLAIMS EPS PREPARES TO USE CHEMICAL WEAPONS

PA051336 San Jose LA REPUBLICA in Spanish 23 Mar 85 p 5

[Text] A bulletin issued by the Nicaraguan Democratic Force (FDN) claims that chemical weapons will be used against its rebel troops during an offensive being prepared by the Sandinist People's Army (EPS) to wipe out guerrillas from the northern part of the country.

The FDN bulletin issued in San Jose states: "The FDN denounces to the people of Central America and the world that the Sandinist-Marxist government in Managua is preparing the ground in northern and central Nicaragua to initiate a chemical war against our insurgent forces fighting there.

"According to reports obtained by our special intelligence services, the mobilization of 50,000 Nicaraguans from the country's northern departments is not intended to protect the 7,000 peasant families settled in those regions but to create population vacuums where chemical weapons can be used against FDN combatants who have managed to penetrate deeply and provide support beyond Matagalpa, a centrally located department of Nicaragua whose capital is 124 km from Managua.

"Concerning this, and expanding on the confidential reports available, we also denounce the intensification of the indiscriminate mining of several of the country's northern departments which, from its beginning in 1983, has caused innocent victims among the civilian population.

"We have also learned that the peasants have been removed by force from their settlements in pitiful conditions and that they have been forced to give up their domestic production and family heritage. The resistance found among entire families to this exodus has led to repressive actions against men, women, elderly people, and children.

"According to recent reports obtained by the FDN, Cuban technicians planned this operation, just as Soviet advisers did with the poorer communities in Afghanistan.

"Our organization denounces to all human rights organizations not only the initiation of a chemical war by the Marxist government in Managua, but also the violation of the Geneva Convention of 27 July 1949, which establishes the rules of conduct in the case of armed conflicts."

CHAMORRO RAPS CONTADORA GROUP ON CRISIS HANDLING

PA060306 Bogota EL TIEMPO in Spanish 29 Mar 85 p 5 A

["Special article" by Pedro J. Chamorro B., former director of the Nicaraguan newspaper LA PRENSA]

[Text] Colombian President Belisario Betancur has been known in his country for being the main promoter of the dialogue and political negotiations with the guerrillas, seeing this as the least costly way of reaching peace. However, this criterion has not been equally promoted by the Contadora Group as a means for solving the Central American crisis.

I have not seen a statement from Betancur backing the dialogue between the rebels and the Nicaraguan Government, despite the fact that this dialogue has been proposed by all of the Nicaraguan opposition sectors on several occasions. None of the presidents of the countries that compose the famous Contadora Group have reacted to these proposals. What has happened is that the Sandinist Front has stated on many occasions that it will not talks with the "contras." The front says that it is prepared to talk with Reagan himself, but never with its fellow citizens.

This decidedly alien position by the Managua government has been strengthened by the negligence with which the Contadora Group has been viewing the efforts being made to find a negotiated solution to the Nicaraguan civil war.

The solution, as the Sandinist Front sees it, is the total extermination of the Nicaraguans who have decided to rise up in arms in view of the narrowing of the civil framework and violations of the initially democratic principles of the Nicaraguan revolution.

This is why they have made a militarization effort -- never seen before in Central American history -- establishing an obligatory military service so that young Nicaraguans serve the party's army and the party's Marxist-Leninist ideology.

Even problems that apparently are problems between countries, like the Costa Rican-Nicaraguan conflict that halted the Contadora process, have their origin in the repressive nature of the Sandinist regime or in internal Nicaraguan problems once these problems have external repercussions.

Let us briefly examine the why's of the Jose Manuel Urbina Lara case. The Sandinists are describing the recent release of Urbina Lara as a reactivation of the stagnant Contadora process.

Why did Honduras and El Salvador decide not to attend the Contadora meeting in February? They did not attend in solidarity with Costa Rica, which had maintained its position of demanding the release of Jose Manuel Urbina Lara.

Why was Costa Rica so insistent on the release of one person and even broke off the Contadora talks over the issue? It insisted because this person was taken from its embassy in Managua while he was under asylum there, an action that violated one of the basic principles of coexistence among nations: the right to asylum.

Why did Urbina Lara seek asylum in the Costa Rican Embassy? He sought asylum because he was being persecuted for political reasons. He had refused to serve in the Sandinist Army, which is enlisting thousands of Nicaraguans to go and kill their Nicaraguan brothers for the sake of an ideology that is rejected by the majority.

Why does the Sandinist Front have to force young people to fight a few "Somozists?" Because the truth is, the front faces a huge revolutionary insurgency support by Nicaraguan peasants representing the largest guerrilla force that any Latin American government ever had to face in modern history. The 14,000 armed men are a force three times as large as the Salvadoran guerrillas in a country that has about half the population of El Salvador.

Regardless of who is right in this conflict, the fact is, it represents a civil war whose international repercussions produce serious friction and conflicts among the Central American countries.

Therefore, the men concerned with getting to the root of the problem and not simply resolving its superficial manifestations, men like President Betancur and the other Contadora Group presidents, should use for Nicaragua the same scale they use in the search for peace in their own countries.

When President Jose Napoleon Duarte announced that he was prepared to talk with the guerrillas, the Contadora Group and the whole world gave him an ovation. But, what happens whenever the Nicaraguan rebels propose a serious dialogue to the Sandinist Front with the mediation of the Episcopal Conference -- which they did in a document signed recently in San Jose?

As long as the Contadora Group does not realize that for there to be a solution to the Central American crisis there must first be democratization in Nicaragua and as long as the group pays more attention to the symptoms rather than the illness, it will be condemned to meeting every month for the next 20 years. Meanwhile, the war goes on.

ARDE DOCUMENT REITERATES CALL FOR GUERRILLA UNITY

PA071615 San Jose LA REPUBLICA in Spanish 28 Mar 85 p 3

[Text] A Democratic Revolutionary Alliance [ARDE] communique released yesterday and signed by Commander Eden Pastora, Jose Davila, and Donald Castillo Orozco rejects the charge that they are "anti-unity." The document also announces that ARDE already has a serious plan for achieving unity.

The document sent by ARDE states:

ARDE addresses the Nicaraguan people and the free peoples of the world to explain the following:

1. Once again the Marxist-Leninist regime in Managua rejected the chance of achieving a peaceful solution to the Nicaraguan conflict by not responding to a document, released on 1 March this year, in which certain opposition sectors set a 20 March deadline for the FSLN to open a negotiation.

2. The above is further evidence of Managua's intransigence in not accepting political solutions to the civil war currently bleeding us and justifies our not signing a document that sought a negotiation with the communists in Nicaragua. As we stated on 31 October 1984 and reiterated after the electoral farce on 4 November, the FSLN has left Nicaraguans with war as their only means of expression for achieving democracy and freedom.

3. In line with liberation ideals, ARDE, along with other personalities and organizations, issued a specific appeal to the Nicaraguan Democratic Force [FDN] through the Southern Bloc Document of 4 March to unite our actions and constitute a single struggle front that would enable us to make qualitative advances in our defensive war against totalitarianism.

4. Despite the call for unity on 4 March and the expiration of the 20 March deadline given to Managua by the northern bloc, the FDN has not yet answered our appeal. On the contrary, certain sectors have dedicated themselves to labeling us anti-unity because we did not sign the request for talks with the communist regime in Managua.

5. With patriotism and historical responsibility we insist and reiterate: It is the four of unity; let us not set any more deadlines for Managua; with the communists that is tantamount to wasting time. ARDE and the members of the southern bloc already have a serious plan for achieving unity, to be discussed and implemented as soon as the other opposition sectors express their support for the initiative of uniting for the struggle as the only means to defeat the pro-Soviet regime that today represses our people.

CASTRO CONGRATULATES ETHIOPIAN LEADER

PA072044 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 7 Apr 85

[Text] Cuban President Fidel Castro has sent a congratulatory message to Ethiopian Head of State Mengistu Haile Mariam on the occasion of the 44th anniversary of Victory Day. In his message the Cuban leader asserts that the defeat of Italian fascism in Ethiopa demonstrated the Ethiopian people's heroism in their struggle to preserve their national identity, sovereignty, and independence. In conclusion, the Cuban president wished the Ethiopian leader success in the construction of a new society, despite the current difficulties caused by the drought and the confrontation with the reactionary forces trying to check the advance of the socialist revolution.

COMMENTARY LAUDS CASTRO'S ECONOMIC PROPOSALS

FL052307 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1700 GMT 4 Apr 85

[FAR and Interior Ministry combatants political information program commentary]

[Text] The ideas expressed by our Commander in Chief Fidel Castro on the economic situation in general, and especially in Latin America, have had a great impact. They are proposals which go right to the point. They clearly explain the causes of the crisis, the consequences which can already be seen and, above all, he defines soundly, bluntly, and clearly how the future will be if the capitalist countries do not set aside their selfishness.

The most noteworthy and bold aspects of these opinions are the accurate and unquestionable proposals which Fidel presents on the foreign debt and present obsolete international economic order. There have been many views expressed on Fidel's proposals in the sixth the seventh Nonaligned Movement summit meetings, at the UN General Assembly, and other international forums, and in response to the release of interviews granted to the foreign press, the most recent of which appeared in the Mexican daily EXCELSIOR.

Some U.S. Adminstration officials have responded in the most bitter and irrational way to these unquestionable arguments. Furthermore, a Republican politician demanded that the foreign debt be collected from developing countries through the use of force, if necessary.

However, in nearly all parts of the world the views are different, slowly but surely reasoning and understanding prevail.

A prominent Parliament member of the British Labor Party, Anthony Benn, whose opinion is respected in Western European political circles, explained that Cuban President Fidel Castro's proposals on the Latin American and Third World countries' foreign debt should be given serious consideration at the international level. He added that the inability of Latin America to pay its foreign debt reflects the extreme inequality existing in the relations between Third World and capitalist countries, and acknowledged that the near collapse of the international economic system is destroying the already extremely low standard of living in regions such as Latin America.

Benn stressed that Latin America's situation is serious and the issue should be fully reexamined because the economic inequalities are worsening and reflect a political situation of grave consequences.

Doubtlessly, those views expressed by such an important person from the British political scene and others from industrialized and developing countries show that Fidel's message and proposals have had a positive effect and will have to be taken into consideration, or unavoidable changes will take place in the economy, politics, and consumer society with unforeseen consequences to humankind.

VISITING BOLIVIAN MINISTER MEETS C. RODRIGUEZ

FL051320 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1000 GMT 5 Apr 85

[Text] Carlos Rafael Rodriguez, vice president of the Councils of State and Ministers, has met in Havana with Bolivian Information Minister Mario Rueda Pena.

During the meeting, various aspects of the present international situation and bilateral relations between Cuba and Bolivia were discussed. Special attention was given to the Latin American foreign debt problem. The Cuban vice president and the Bolivian minister also talked about the Central American problem and of the solid support both governments are giving to the Nicaraguan Government in its effort to confront aggression and achieve a negotiated political solution in the area. The Bolivian information minister has been on an official visit in Cuba since last Tuesday.

Relations To Improve

PA051953 Havana International Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 5 Apr 85

[Text] Bolivian Information Minister Mario Rueda Pena has told this station that Bolivian-Cuban relations will soon receive a new boost with the opening of a business office in Havana to promote trade. Rueda Pena said that during a visit to Cuba, which he described as very fruitful, the bases were established to implement an agreement to exchange radio and television programs to strengthen ties between the Bolivian and Cuban people.

The Bolivian information minister said that he personally witnessed the great progress made by Cuba after the triumph of the 1959 revolution in the fields of health and education. He also said that this progress is even more notable given that Cuba is a country expending a large amount of resources on national defense in the face of the permanent threat of aggression on the part of the United States.

During an interview Bolivian Information Minister Mario Rueda Pena stated that his government has no reservations about supporting the Nicaraguan Government, which is the result of a revolutionary popular war against one of the bloodiest dictatorships on the continent.

In addition, he said, the Sandinist government was established by the sovereign will of the Nicaraguan people and ratified by profoundly democratic elections. Rueda Pena said in conclusion that the Nicaraguan revolution does not constitute a threat to peoples on the continent but that U.S.-financed Somozist counterrevolutionary groups illegally attacking Nicaragua do constitute a threat to the sovereignty and integrity of nations in the region.

REPORT ON GOVERNMENT OPPONENTS ORGANIZING COUP

FL061547 Bridgetown CANA in English 1529 GMT 6 Apr 85

[Text] Bridgetown, Barbados, April 6, CANA -- The threat of a coup is hanging over Guyana as opponents of the government ply Western capitals in search of support for removing the socialist Forbes Burnham regime, according to the London-based LATIN AMERICA REGIONAL REPORTS.

The weekly, published by LATIN AMERICAN NEWSLETTERS of Britain, said in its latest edition received here that one coup supporter said his organisation was banking on action being taken by the Guyana Army.

Following is the text of the report:

There is no doubt that the threat of a military coup hangs over Guyana. However, the Guyanese differ on what to do about it. President Burnham -- who claims the real threat is more of foreign intervention -- is nevertheless using the ghost of an international coup to coax the opposition People's Progressive Party (RPP) into a government of national unity.

Others are rain-dancing for a coup. The U.S.- and Canada-based conservative Party of Guyana has appealed to President Reagan for the U.S. to develop a workable plan to prevent in Guyana a Soviet-Cuban forward base in the hemisphere, as was planned for Grenada. Coup supporters, claiming to be funded by an international trade union organisation, have toured Western capitals plying for backing and presenting themselves as potential civilian partners of a military regime.

Some external influence on the British- and U.S.-trained military and police cannot be discounted, particularly because of their links to other Caricom forces. But the chances of any such influence have diminished since the late Barbadian Prime Minister Tom Adams was succeeded by Bernard St John, who is unlikely to tolerate military interference in the affairs of another Caricom member.

The question is whether a PPP alliance with the ruling People's National Congress (PNC) would prevent a coup, by presenting a united front with strong labour support, or provoke it by raising the ghost of greater Cuban influence in Guyana. PPP's leader Cheddi Jagan is still consulting his party on how to respond to Burnham's call for an urgent constructive dialogue.

Right-wing and Catholic Church sources advocate a military coup to pre-empt such an alliance of Burnham's cooperative socialists with Jagan's communists.

Undoubtedly the PNC has a great deal of control over the mainly Afro-Guyanese security forces. Annually they are treated to 10-12 per cent of the budget, receiving this year (G) 190.8 million dollars (one U.S. dollar: 4.12 Guy dollars), against 153.7 million dollars (G) in 1984.

Guyana boasts one of the largest security forces in the Commonwealth Caribbean, with more than 17,000 men in the Guyana Defence Force (GDF) and police armed with modern Eastern-bloc weaponry, plus the forces of national service, militia, the newly forced national guard, political police and PNC armed hacks.

A coup supporter told us that his organisation was banking on action being taken by the GDF and police, the forces over which the PNC has less ideological control. (end of text)